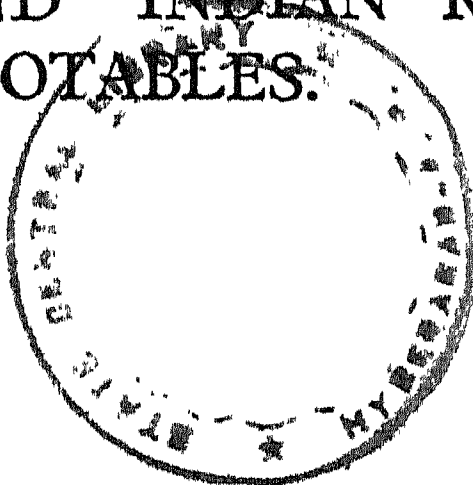


NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

7068,

CALENDAR
OF
PERSIAN
CORRESPONDENCE

BEING LETTERS WHICH PASSED
BETWEEN SOME OF THE COMPANY'S
SERVANTS AND INDIAN RULERS
AND NOTABLES.



VOL. VIII, 1788-89

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PREFACE

I regret that due to various circumstances beyond our control, the publication of this volume of the Calendar has been so long delayed. Further, many errors have inadvertently crept in, for which we crave the indulgence of our readers. But even so, I am sure it will be welcomed by all scholars and research students who will find it indispensable for a study of the history of India in the years 1788-89. The principles of editing are the same as those which were adopted in the case of the earlier volumes.

B. A. SALETORÉ,
*Director of Archives,
Government of India.*

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA,
NEW DELHI,
25 March 1953.

ABBREVIATIONS

CI—Copy of Issues

CR—Copy of Receipts

TI—Translation of Issues

TR—Translation of Receipts

AI—Abstract of Issues

AR—Abstract of Receipts

OR—Original of Receipts



In the Persian Correspondence the dates (in italics) in the margin against receipts are the dates on which the letters were received, while those (in Roman) against issues are the dates on which the letters were issued.

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INTRODUCTION

The events described in this volume took place in 1788 and 1789 which were the 3rd and 4th years of the administration of Lord Cornwallis. In the political arena of northern India are the Mughal Emperor, Shah Alam and Mahadji Sindhia ; in the south are the Nizam and Tipu Sultan, around whom all interest centres ; while the Governor-General is serenely adjusting differences between the members of the Mughal Royal Family, listening to the protestations of loyalty and good faith from the Peshwa at Poona, the Nawab at Oudh and the Maratha Raja at Nagpur, and cementing ties of friendship with the rulers of frontier states and those of adjacent countries in south east Asia, in northern India events are leading to the zenith of Maratha ascendancy at Delhi ; while in southern India, the stage is set for the third Mysore War.

Delhi presented a picture of sombre decline with Emperor Shah Alam amidst domestic dissensions and foreign intervention. There is no doubt that he was sincere in his professions of good faith which he made to the Governor-General. Likewise his eldest son Prince Jahandar Shah was honest in his endearing loyalty to Lord Cornwallis. Not only does the Prince congratulate Lord Cornwallis on the latter's safe arrival at Calcutta, but goes to the extent of calling the Governor-General his uncle ! But while the Prince was so affectionate towards the British administrator, he was not dutiful to his own father, the Emperor. This is evident from the bitter statement which Shah Alam made from his camp at Rewari (25 February 1788), when he was told by Yusuf Ali Khan that the Prince had joined hands with Ghulam Qadir Khan and marched towards Jalesar in the Etah District, U.P. The Emperor remarked that the Prince, who could not agree with his parents, was not likely to get on well with others. It was a grievous blunder which Prince Jahandar Shah made when he sided with Ghulam Qadir. For he had thereby emboldened an unscrupulous villain who was to play a dastardly part in the history of Delhi very soon.

Prince Jahandar Shah's ingratitude to his royal father was neither uncommon in Mughal history nor unrewarded by his own children. Ingratitude seemed to be the bane of the royalty, particularly of Delhi. Prince Jahandar's children were destined to do the same. But before we describe it, we may note that Prince Jahandar Shah received from the Governor-General in advance one lakh of rupees for his expenses out of the *peshkash* allowed to him by the Nawab Vazir Asafud-Daulah, and had been made Regent of the Mughal Empire by the Emperor. He continued to maintain the most cordial relations with Lord Cornwallis. Fate, however, was against the Prince. First came the split in the ranks of the royal household and the advisers to the Prince and the consequent estrangement with the Vazir. Next came the question of the mounting royal expenses which the Governor-General somehow met by assigning through the Vazir Rs. 25,000 a month to the Prince on condition that he should stay at Rajamaharaj (in Bihar). Finally came the Prince's illness about which first Mr. Duncan, the Resident at Benares, and then the Prince's wife Qutlaq Sultan Begam, gave a detailed account to the Governor-General. While proceeding to Chunar in the Mirzapur District, U. P., on 31 May 1788, the Prince suddenly complained of pain in the chest and died. Bereft of her husband, Qutlaq Sultan Begam now appears as a forlorn royal female. This lady evokes our sympathy

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inasmuch as she suffered not only at the hands of a cruel fate but also at those of an unsympathetic set of relatives. Her sons deserted her, her officials forsook her, and her own unkind relatives pressed for her return to Delhi from Benares, in British territory, where she had taken asylum. Her appeals to the Governor-General to help her to withstand the demands which came from the royal court at Delhi make pathetic reading. Although on one occasion the Governor-General was inclined to advise her to return to Delhi in deference to the wishes of the Emperor, yet on learning about the state of affairs at Delhi both from Qutlaq Sultan Begam and the Vazir, he ceased to press for her return to the Mughal capital. It was a motherly affection which made her appeal to the Governor-General for funds to educate her three boys. But what Prince Jahandar had done to his father Shah Alam, the Prince's sons did to Jahandar Shah's widow. The eldest son Prince Shigufta Bakht deserted Qutlaq Sultan Begam and left for Lucknow. He was followed by Prince Muzaffar Bakht. And their examples were copied by the royal servants until Qutlaq Sultan Begam found herself all alone in the world! With the desertion of her two sons, her original allowance of Rs. 17,000 was reduced to Rs. 12,000 per month—an income which compelled her to place herself entirely at the bounty of the Governor-General. She died on 20 October 1818.

The misfortune which stalked the royal household pales into insignificance when compared with the crisis which was brewing in the Mughal capital. The main actors in this lurid drama were the erstwhile Vakil-i-Mutlaq, Ghulam Qadir Khan, his once friend but later rival, Mirza Ismail Beg Khan, and the intrepid Maratha ruler of Gwalior, Mahadji Sindhia, while the helpless victims were Emperor Shah Alam, his sons Mirza Jahandar, Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh, and Mirza Akbar Shah, and the distant onlookers were the Maharaja of Jodhpur and the king of Afghanistan.

The drama may be said to begin with Mahadji Sindhia's drive to Delhi. On 18 June 1788 was fought the battle of Agra in which his commander-in-chief Rana Khan helped by Ranjit Singh Jat routed Ismail Beg. Agra fell to the Marathas, and Ismail Beg fled to the camp of Ghulam Qadir Khan. With Agra under him, Mahadji pushed on to Muttra. In the meanwhile the storm was gathering from the direction of Koil (Aligarh), which Ghulam Qadir Khan occupied. Delhi was now threatened by a double danger—Mahadji Sindhia pressing onwards towards it from Muttra, and Ghulam Qadir hastening in its direction from Aligarh. To make matters worse, Ismail Beg Khan was threatening from Shahdara, while two minor and equally insignificant but mischievous chieftains, Arjun Singh of Bundelkhand and Beni Huzuri of Chattarpur, fought a full scale battle in the environment of Delhi (4 July 1788), to add to the city's terror and confusion. Wholesale evacuation of women started from the capital. And the prospect of peace that might have lurked in men's minds was blasted by the 31st July when awful news came from the camps of both the victor and the vanquished alike. Dissensions arose between Mahadji Sindhia and his ally Ranjit Singh Jat; Mahadji Sindhia and the Raja of Jaipur distrusted each other; Ismail Beg and Ghulam Qadir fell out; while the wily Sikhs negotiated with all, believing in the prosperity of none. Ismail Beg and Ghulam Qadir, driven to despair, extorted money from the citizens of Delhi and called on their bankrupt allies to expel Sindhia. On the pretext that the Emperor owed him money, Ghulam Qadir took the defenceless Emperor Shah Alam by surprise;

and while the latter was taking rest in his sleeping apartments, raised Mirza Bedar Bakht, son of Emperor Ahmad Shah (1748-54), and grandson of Emperor Muhammad Shah (1719-48), to the throne of Delhi (1 August 1788) under the name of Jahan Shah. Ghulam Qadir's accomplices in this plot were two Frenchmen in his service, Manyar Singh, commandant of Ghulam Qadir, Rai Sital Das, the *naib* of the Nawab Vazir and the Treasurer of the Royal Household at Delhi, Ismail Beg Khan, and the rebellious Nawab Nazir, Manzur Ali Khan. Not content with this, Ismail Beg, Ghulam Qadir, and the widow of Emperor Muhammad Shah, Malika Zamani Sahiba, entered the sleeping apartments of Shah Alam, forcibly took from him his sword, target, and jewels, and sent him along with his son Prince Akbar Shah and seventeen other princes to the Asad Burj prison quarters, and, finally, gave the signal for the Rohillas to ransack the palace for hidden treasure. No authentic report was available as to the exact fate which befell the Mughal Emperor. Ghulam Qadir rewarded his lieutenants thus—Nawab Nazir was imprisoned in Moti Mahal (a little to the south of Shah Burj), and Sital Das confined in Shah Burj itself. On the issue of raising Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh, one of the sons of Shah Alam, to the throne of Delhi, Ismail Beg and Ghulam Qadir parted company.

This was the beginning of the end of Ghulam Qadir, who was now face to face with Mahadji Sindhia. The Maratha chief was the embodiment of shrewdness and cruelty characteristic of the 18th century; Ghulam Qadir was the personification of the perfidy that prevailed in that age. To both, the poor Emperor was a mere figure-head that could be brushed aside for their own ends. The Emperor considered Ghulam Qadir as an untrustworthy braggart, and Sindhia as an unreliable ally who would not comply with the royal wishes. Of the two Sindhia was undoubtedly superior in strength of arms. He moved from Muttra and massed at Faridabad. Ismail Beg appealed in vain to the Vazir of Oudh and the Governor-General to save Delhi from the mounting Maratha menace. But Sindhia's concern was Ghulam Qadir against whom the Maratha chief sent troops. Once again Delhi groaned under the weight of the warring chieftains. The Rohillas started looting the city, Ismail Beg joined them, and the Mughals swelled the ranks of the freebooters. Fearing that the capital was out of his control, and perhaps realizing that the alliance between Ismail Beg and Mahadji Sindhia was too much for him, Ghulam Qadir retreated in confusion across the Jumna (2 October 1788). Mahadji Sindhia then occupied Delhi, freed Emperor Shah Alam and the royal ladies from confinement, and thereby retrieved his prestige as the ally and saviour of the Mughal Emperor (9th October). This marks the zenith of Maratha ascendancy in northern India.

Ghulam Qadir, so it was reported, even appealed to Timur Shah of Afghanistan to come to his help. No doubt, Timur Shah had already been invited by the Maharaja of Jodhpur to invade Delhi and to regain it from the Marathas (19th-24th December). But neither Timur Shah nor his allies could save him from retribution. Realizing that his plight was desperate, Ghulam Qadir fled with 300 Rohilla horse-men; but (30 December) he fell from his horse and was captured along with eight of his lieutenants by the Zamindar of Jani (near Meerut), who brought him to Nawab Ali Bahadur. Ghulam Qadir was confined in Meerut. The news of the capture of Ghulam Qadir caused rejoicing even in Poona, where the Peshwa ordered a salute to be fired.

Mahadji Sindhia ordered that the eyes of Ghulam Qadir be pulled out and his ears cut off and all sent to the Emperor Shah Alam. Five boxes containing the repelling remnants of Ghulam Qadir were sent to the Emperor. And then Ghulam Qadir was removed to a distance of ten or twelve miles from Muttra and executed.

Mahadji Sindhia, sometimes styled Patel Sahib in the records, now stood as the sole king-maker in the capital. This shrewd ruler maintained cordial relations with the Governor-General, whose regard and esteem for the Maratha chief were "well known to the whole world". But the Governor-General was not prepared to meddle in the deteriorating royal affairs, as Mahadji wished him to do, although Lord Cornwallis appreciated the intentions of Mahadji to establish a closer connection between the English and the Marathas for the benefit of both governments. Major Palmer, who was appointed Resident at Mahadji's Court, was instructed to carry out the English policy on those lines. Mahadji's attitude to the Emperor was, as we have already noticed above, purely that of an opportunist. He had failed to pay the stipulated sum of Rs. 1,30,000 a month for the royal expenses, and had refused to comply with the orders of the Emperor. But all the same Mahadji paid his respects to the Emperor in the environs of Agra, and received some royal favours. Mahadji Sindhia was a mixture of statesmanship and superstition. When after dealing with the captive Nawab Nazir Manzur Ali Khan, the question arose as to what was to be done next, an astrologer was consulted. That student of the stars ordained that no expedition should be undertaken till the next year. But the swords of the soldiers craved for blood; hence, since the army could not lay its hands on its enemies, at least it could seek revenge in less dignified quarters. Therefore, the traitor Moti Mal (Mota Mal), an officer of the Rana of Gohad, whom Sindhia had bribed for admitting the Maratha troops into the fort of Gwalior in 1781, was summoned, and his fingers burnt.

Before we pass on to the political scene in the south, we might mention the names of some prominent rulers in northern India, who figure in these records. They are Asafud-Daulah, the Nawab Vazir of Oudh, who consistently maintained cordial relations with the English, although, like others, he was tardy in the payment of his subsidy of Rs. 3,70,000 to the Company; Faizullah Khan, the Nawab of Rampur, who likewise always professed friendship with the English, but did not mind interfering in the affairs of his neighbours; Mudhoji Bhonsla and, after his death, Raghoji Bhonsla of Nagpur, the former of whom went on a pilgrimage to Benares, Gaya and Allahabad, and the latter, who visited the Peshwa at Poona, and sent presents to and received presents from the Governor-General, and like Faizullah Khan and others, sent congratulations to the Governor-General on the recovery of King George III; Tukoji Holkar of Indore, who desired the same co-operation from Lord Cornwallis which he had secured from Warren Hastings, and who was very anxious to receive from the Governor-General exemption from pilgrim tax for Ahalya Bai, who was on a pilgrimage to Benares and other holy places; and Sawai Pratap Singh, Raja of Jaipur, who was on the whole loyal to the Mughal Emperor but was busy plundering the *mahals* of the Rana of Jodhpur.

The south presented a strange contrast to the north during these two years 1788-1789. The prominent figures here were Nizam Ali Khan of Hyderabad, Tipu Sultan of Mysore, and Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan of Arcot. While the scene was mainly centred at Hyderabad,

importance sometimes shifted to Seringapatam and to Poona, where Madhav Rao Narayan held steadily the reins of Maratha administration. Two minor personalities sometimes showed themselves on the scene—Fateh Singh Gaekwad of Baroda, and Ali Raja Bibi, the queen of Cannanore. But the centre of attraction was Tipu Sultan. The records under review shed some interesting light on three aspects of that much maligned ruler: his views on a proposed matrimonial alliance between his house and that of the Nizam; his daring diplomatic relations with France; and his skill as an administrator. Tipu Sultan desired to have friendly relations with Nizam Ali. This accounts for the costly presents which Tipu Sultan sent to the Nizam, although he made the latter's ambassadors wait for a week before he gave them audience! While Tipu Sultan was prepared to recover on the Nizam's behalf Rajahmundry and other places which the English had wrested from the Nizam, he was not prepared to listen to a matrimonial alliance between the Nizam's son and his daughter: there could be no matrimonial alliance with a ruler who was negotiating a treaty with the English! Tipu's inveterate enmity with the English was responsible for his sending ambassadors to France. But Tipu Sultan was not partial to the French. When Mons. Bischoff came to Seringapatam from Pondicherry, he was imprisoned on a charge of having sent intelligence and of having taken away a plan of the fort of Golconda. It need not be thought that, while Tipu was aware of the importance of a French alliance, he was blind to the needs of the hour. He professed friendship with the Governor-General and even entered into an agreement with the Peshwa, according to which the Pandit Pradhan was to furnish a constant supply of 20,000 horses to Tipu, and the latter was to pay to the Peshwa annually the *chauth* in specie.

Of special interest to students of history is the intelligence reported to the Governor-General, from Aurangabad in the Nizam's territory, about the internal condition of Tipu Sultan's kingdom. The two ambassadors sent by the Nizam to Tipu, Hafiz Faridu'd-Din Khan and Saiyid Daud Ali Khan, who returned to Hyderabad with some presents from Tipu Sultan, gave a good account of the administration of that ruler. Tipu Sultan possessed large military stores, with an infantry that was more numerous than the cavalry; an administration which was efficient; a country that was fertile; a collection of revenue which was regular; a store of jewels that was always full; and officials who received their salaries regularly and who were zealous in obeying his commands. An excellent rider, Tipu Sultan was a dead shot, and very fond of big game. Such praise, coming as it does from two officers who were by no means admirers of Tipu Sultan, help us to see that ruler in a more favourable light than has hitherto been done by modern and nineteenth century historians.

Nawab Nizam Ali offered a strange contrast to Tipu Sultan. He attended to nothing but pleasure after his peace with Tipu. His Chief Minister, Nawab Mushir-ul-Mulk's sole concern was the collection of revenue even at the risk of ruining the country. In spite of this the treasury was empty and the people bankrupt. The Nizam sent officials to punish the recalcitrant feudatory Manmohan Rao Pingalia, but they could do nothing. The Nizam had to be content with confiscating Pingalia's *jagirs*. As for the Nizam's Court, it was a picture of perpetual political intrigue. Mushir-ul-Mulk became the target of the ruler's wrath, and was interned in his own house.

Madhavrao Peshwa maintained cordial relations with the Governor-General. He congratulated Lord Cornwallis on his safe arrival in Calcutta and sent some presents to and received presents from the Governor-General. It is interesting to note that among the presents sent from the Court of the Peshwa were Deccani cloths which were as costly and fine in texture as those which the Governor-General had sent from Bengal. His wakil at Calcutta was Lala Sewak Ram. Nana Farnavis also figures in the records as sending presents to and receiving presents from the Governor-General and as secretly corresponding with the Nizam. Nana Farnavis seems to have had direct dealings with the Governor-General.

The Arcot Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan's star had already set in the southern political sky. His subordinate position to the Government of Madras was a great handicap which, even after appealing to the Governor-General, he could not overcome. The death of his son Munavvar Khan was a blow from which he never recovered. And his indignation against the Nizam and Tipu Sultan was of no avail.

The queen of Cannanore, Ali Raja Bibi, was an energetic ruler. She sought protection from the Governor-General against the depredations of Tipu Sultan. She told the Governor-General that with her alliance the English could easily reduce to subservience the Malabar chiefs in the neighbourhood of Tellicherry. But the Governor-General, who returned her compliments, believed more in himself than in her. When she demanded repatriation of one of her subjects by name Agha Muhammad, who had defrauded her of a considerable sum of money and had taken shelter in British territory, the Governor-General remained studiously silent!

Fateh Singh Gaekwad of Baroda appealed to the Governor-General and to the Governor-General's Council that Broach, which had originally belonged to the Gaekwad, and which was given by the English to Fateh Singh's enemy, Mahadji Sindhia, in 1782, should be returned to him. He sent his wakil Swarup Ram to Calcutta in 1787; but no reply was forthcoming from the Governor-General concerning Fateh Singh's request.

The Governor-General could remain silent with rulers inside India, but he could not do so with rulers on the borders of India. Those who were of immediate concern were the kings of Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet, and Kabul; while the more distant kings with whom he had friendly relations were those of Pegu and Siam. Nepal was ruled by Ran Bahadur Sah, the Gurkha Raja. Since he was troubled by some persons inside his territory, he sent Dinanath Upaddhaya to Calcutta to get some succour. This case had been pending long, since the days of Warren Hastings. Cordial relations existed between the Company and the Nepal State. The pilgrims and merchants of Nepal, who came on a pilgrimage to Benares, spoke highly of the magnificence and wisdom of the ruler of Nepal, and received all assistance and facilities from Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan, who was the Judicial Magistrate of Benares under the Company. Major Charles Harris White was sent by the Governor-General to the confines of Nepal on a treasure hunt in 1788. The king of Nepal sent an expedition against Lhasa, whose chief had penetrated into Nepal, and he requested the Governor-General not to give any assistance to them. The Governor-General assured him that no help would be given to the people of Lhasa. But when the king of Nepal desired to have 500 muskets which Dinanath Upaddhaya had

purchased at Calcutta to be sent to Nepal, the Governor-General politely declined to comply with the request, consoling the Raja of Nepal with the presentation of a solitary musket!

With Tibet relations were equally cordial. Chanzo Cusho, Teshu Lama, was the chief Buddhist priest of Mongolia. In January 1789, he complained to the Governor-General against the Gurkhali Raja, who had usurped the throne of Nepal about 20 years earlier, and who continued to harass the people of Bhutan. Teshu Lama desired help against the Gurkhali Raja. Two Kashmiri Muslims, Muhammad Rajab and Muhammad Wali, were sent as vakils of Teshu Lama to Calcutta. The wily Governor-General received the Tibetan envoys but declined to comply with the request of the Lama, since any assistance given by the English would be misconstrued by the Emperor of China whose vassal was the Gurkhali Raja. The Governor-General praised the Lama for his sound administration but advised his vakils to depart because of the approaching warm weather.

Deb Raja of Bhutan first appears in a case against him by the Zamindar of Baikunthpur, Rangpur District, East Bengal. The Raja was accused of forcibly seizing the land in the days of Warren Hastings. The Raja of Bhutan next figures in his disputes with the Raja of Cooch Behar. Deb Raja professed friendship with the English, and promised more amicable relations with the Zamindar of Baikunthpur.

A more dangerous neighbour was the king of Kabul, Timur Shah Durrani. He still dreamt of world conquest, and hoped one day to cast his sway over northern India. The Governor-General had stationed Saiyid Ghulam Muhammad Husain as the Company's ambassador at Kabul. This person was the son of Shah Abdullah Naqshbandi whom Warren Hastings had sent on a goodwill mission to Timur Shah in 1781. Although Kabul was torn by internal strife, yet Timur Shah responded to the invitation of the Raja of Jodhpur to invade India, marched across Attock and came to Multan. He wished to re-establish Emperor Shah Alam on the throne of Delhi in the same manner as his father Ahmad Shah Durrani had done in the days of Alamgir II, and to free Shah Alam from the clutches of Ghulam Qadir. The ambitious Afghan king sent his commands to all, including the Marathas and the English, for immediate compliance! Timur Shah assured Lord Cornwallis of the former's royal patronage, and even presented the Governor-General with a *khilat*.

Outside the borders of India were two states with whom the Governor-General maintained friendly relations. These were Pegu and Siam. King Nandaw ruled over Pegu. His vazir wrote to the English at Calcutta to continue their trade relations with Pegu. The Governor-General assured him of English support and sent him a few presents. Captain Forrest arrived with a cargo of areca-nuts from Malaya. The Minister of Pegu, Ming Maha Siha Sura, who was encouraged by this trade offer, next proposed that a chariot for the king of Pegu and some military stores be purchased at Calcutta! The minister assured the Governor-General that the cost of the chariot and of the ship that was to transport it, and of the man who was to be in charge of it, would all be paid; but from the manner in which the king of Pegu had remained silent over a debt of Rs. 19,087-3-0 which he owed

to the Government of Fort St. George, it was evident that the king of Pegu wanted favours to be done for him without his paying in return for them.

To the king of Siam (now Thailand), Phoya Chakkiri, the Governor-General sent Capt. Wright with all good wishes, assuring that ruler of the Company's friendship. But, as in the case of the request from the king of Nepal, the Governor-General declined to send to Siam the consignment of 3,000 muskets which that king wanted, consoling him with a few presents.

In addition to the above details pertaining to the domestic and foreign relations of the Company, we have in the following letters many others relating to miscellaneous questions. The manner in which the Muslim Judge Magistrate of Benares sent newspaper summaries to the Governor-General suggests that the modern idea of Press Information and its allied subjects had its origin in the eighteenth century. Likewise the modern food control is traceable to the measure which the Company took in 1788 to meet the rise in the price of grain. The cause of the rise in the price of grain given in that year would enliven the curiosity of a modern economist. Likewise the details about landed property given in 1789 are of particular interest to students of economic history. The price of salt, it may be added, was controlled. Stern measures were taken against both Indians and Europeans who indulged in slave trade. Among sports may be mentioned a tiger-elephant hunt which the Peshwa witnessed on 6 June 1788, and which cost three lives! A redoubtable dacoit, Muhammad Husain, appears in 1789. A desperado of like nature but in the army was the Frenchman Mons. Lesteneau, who was under Mahadji Sindhia. He embezzled the pay of his battalion, fled to Farrukhabad and deserted the Maratha chieftain. His whereabouts were not known, although rumour said that he had taken shelter in the vazir's dominions.

Errata

Letter 41, line 3, *for* Rangoon *read* Rakhang (Arakan). *Foot-note 3* should *read* Rangoon, the rendering in the vol. of translations, is evidently wrong.

Letter 65, line 1, *for* Sardat Ali Khan *read* Saadat Ali Khan.

Letter 122, foot note 1, *for* 1887 *read* 1787.

Letter 124, line 8, *for* nformation *read* information.

Letter 128, line 1, *for* Jan. 30 *read* Jan. 31.

Letter 135, line 1, *for* Feb. 6 *read* Feb. 5.

Letter 136, line 9, *for* p 463 *read* p 467.

Letter 139, line 21, *for* 21-5 *read* 21-2.

Letter 142, line 23, *for* 140-1 *read* 140-2.

Letter 161, line 10, *for* 155-64 *read* 155-6.

Page 71, foot-note 5 *for* 1803 *read* 1802.

Letter 191, line 3, *for* p 532 *read* p 542.

Letter 192, line 2, *for* p 33 *read* p 533.

Page 96, foot-notes, last line, add 8, being the number of the note on the page.

Letter 240, line 1, *indicate* Mar. 12 in the margin.

Letter 242, line 22, *for* cor. *read* cer—

Letter 243, line 1, *for* Mar. *read* Mar. 13 in the margin.

Page 112, line 13, *for* histent *read* his tent.

Letter 284, line 6, *for* no 180 *read* no 189.

Page 136, *for* 788 *read* 1788 in the margin.

Page 142, foot-note, *for* *Mutsaddi* *read* *Mutasaddi*.

Page 149, foot-note 1, *for* 2nd *read* 1st.

Letter 371, line 12, *for* He *read* Has.

Letter 376, line 3, *for* no 244 *read* no 244a.

Letter 378, line 2, *for* at *read* it.

Letter 392, line 1, *add* May 8 in the margin.

Letter 414, line 2, *add* no. between comma and 271.

Letter 455, line 12, *for* 5 April 1773 *read* 1773.

Letter 471, line 1, *for* Jun. 13 *read* Jun. 12.

Page 198, foot-note, line 10, *for* o *read* of.

Letter 543, line 3, *for* Glass *read* Dr Glass.

Letter 625, line 1, *for* Aug. 13 *read* Aug. 13², and add foot note 2 to read "Aug. 9 according to the vol. of abstracts".

Letter 648, line 1, date in margin, *for* Aug. 23¹ *read* Aug. 23².

Letter 667, line 1, date in margin, *for* Aug. 1. *read* Aug.—.

Page 273, foot-note 4, *for* Goalpera *read* Goalpara.

Page 277, foot-note 1, for Jaekson *read* Jackson.

Page 279, for 8 *read* 1788 in the margin.

Letter 687(2), line 13, for Prince' *read* Prince's.

Letter 699, line 1, for Gurdas *read* Gurudas.

Page 285, foot-note 5, line 14, for *Jamadas* *read* *Jumadas*.

Page 285, foot-note 5, lines 23 & 24, for September 182 *read* September 1821.

Letter 778, line 1, for Oct. 16 *read* Oct. 18. in the margin.

Page 323, foot-note, *add* 1 against the note.

Page 328, foot-note 4, for Bed r *read* Bedar.

Letter 798, line 17, for Kundur *read* Kunduz.

Letter 803, line 12, for investigati on *read* investigation.

Letter 822, line 6 for no. 155 *read* no. 151.

Letter 823, line 2, for 165-5 *read* 164-5.

Letter 841, line 1, for Nov. 22 *read* Nov. 23 in the margin.

Letter 859, line 2, for p 229 *read* p 529.

Letter 919, line 15, close bracket after Ghulam.

Page 374, for 9 *read* 1789 in the the margin.

Page 381, last letter, line 1, for 839 *read* 939.

Page 383, line 7, for AR 4 *read* AR 5.

Page 389, foot-note 2, line 3, for December 1760 *read* December 23, 1760.

Page 408, line 8, for village *read* pillage.

Letter 991, last but one line, for ~~elief~~ *read* relief.

Letter 1029, for Feb. 10 *read* Feb. 11 in the margin.

Letter 1096, line 2, for tokne *read* token.

Letter 1103, line 2, for y ear *read* year.

Page 457, foot-note 3, line 1, for Gne *read* One.

Page 457, foot-note 5, for Farnavic *read* Farnavis.

Page 471, foot-note 3, for nna *read* anna.

Letter 1203, line 14, after Bengali *add* [1789-90 A.D.].

Page 509, indicate 1789 in the margine.

Page 510, table of account, under Balance against Grand total, for 176741 *read* Rs. 17,674 11.

Page 515, line 17, for fule *read* full.

Page 520 foot-note 2, line 3, for office to *read* officiate.

Letter 1268, lines, 1 and 2, for Complimentary, and *read* Complimentary reply to his letter.

Page 537, foot-note, *ad.* 1 against the note.

Letter 1361, for Aug. 15 *read* Aug. 12 in the margin.

Letter 1406, line 1, for Aug. 30, *read* Aug....in the margin.

Letter 1419, line 1, for Sep. 5. *read* Sep. 6 in the margin.

Letter 1432, line 1, for Sep. 10. *read* Sep. 12 in the margin.

Letter 1444, lines 1 & 4 and foot-note, for Cherry *read* Cheery.

Page 614, line 19, *close* bracket after 357.

Page 624, line 6, for *p 221* read *no. 221*.

Page 625, line 1, *delete]* after Oct in the margin

PERSIAN CORRESPONDENCE

1. From Sadrun-Nisa Begam¹, grandmother of Nawab Asafud-Daulah². Has received his letter informing her that after making a tour through 'this' part of the country he has safely returned to Calcutta. Says that she is aware of the friendly relation subsisting between her grandson, Asafud-Daulah, and the Governor-General and is confident that through the exertions of the latter this will grow stronger from day to day. Hopes to receive his letters frequently. (*OR 1 ; TR 27, p 1, no 1; AR 4, p 470*).

2. From Bahu Begam³, mother of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR 2 ; TR 27, p 1, no 2 ; AR 4, p 470*).

3. To Nawab Faizullah Khan⁴. Has learnt that Muhammad Azim Khan, a near relative of the Nawab, has been assisting Ghulam Qadir Khan⁵ in his hostilities against Sindhia⁶. Says that the English are the mutual friends of the Nawab and Sindhia and therefore this conduct of Azim Khan is contrary to the dictates of such friendship and is also against the Governor-General's policy of non-intervention in such affairs. Hopes the Nawab will advise Muhammad Azim not to pursue such a course. (*CI 20, pp 1-2, no 1; AR 4, p 531, no 2*).

¹ Sadrun-Nisa Begam, also called Alia Begam, was the eldest daughter of Nawab Burhanul-Mulk Saadat Khan and the mother of Shujaud-Daulah, Nawab Vazir of Oudh. She died on 28 Zul-qada 1210 A. H.-5 June 1796 A. D.—Hoey : *Memoirs of Faizabad*.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 4, f.n. 4.

³ Bahu Begam, whose personal name was Amatuz-Zahra, was the daughter of Nawab Mutaminud-Daulah Muhammad Ishaq Khan, a noble of the Court of Emperor Muhammad Shah. She was married in 1746 to Nawab Shujaud-Daulah. She died about the year 1816 A. D. at the age of 88.

⁴ Ruler of Rampur. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 4, f.n. 7.

⁵ The Rohilla Chief. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 254, f.n. 1.

⁶ Mahadaji Sindhia, the famous Maratha Chief of Gwalior.

1788

Jan. 1.

4. To the chief¹ of the port of Rangoon² in the country of Pegu³. Is delighted to receive his letter through Muhammad Azam, *Nakhuda*⁴, who has been deputed to Calcutta in order to purchase guns, powder and other warlike materials. Says that as desired by the addressee every assistance will be given to him in the purchase and transportation of those articles. Hopes that the existing friendship and commercial relations will ever continue between the Company and the addressee. (*CI* 20, pp 2-3, no 2 ; *AR* 4, p 524, no 1).

Jan. 2.

5. From the Raja of Nepal⁵. Is much pleased to receive his lordship's letter. Says that the gentleman of the district listening to the representation of malicious persons interferes in trifling matters against him. Further, he has got inherited rights over Chigwan⁶, Rampur⁶, Jamhauli⁶ and other villages now under the protection of Fort Sumeswar⁷ and as such their revenues were collected in the hills. But for some years the gentleman of the district from some unfriendly motive has been indifferent respecting them. Has sent Dinanath⁸ to represent these matters to his lordship. Hopes he will be pleased to attend to his representations. (*TR* 27, pp 8-9, no 7 ; *AR* 4, p 484).

Jan. 3.

6. From Dinanath Upaddhaya, *vakil* of the Maharaja of Nepal. Represents that *tappas*⁹ Chigwan, Rampur

¹ To the ministers of the King of Burma, according to the vol. of abstracts. The Viceroy of Pegu seems to be indicated. *Vide* nos 41, 43 and 77.

² Rangoon City, capital of Burma.

³ District and town in Lower Burma, ancient capital of the Talaings.

⁴ P. Captain of a ship.

⁵ Ran Bahadur Sah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 363, f.n.2.

⁶ *Tappa* in Champaran Dist., Bihar.

⁷ A fort in the Bettiah subdivision, situated on the summit of the Sumeswar Hills, at a height of 2,884 feet above sea-level. The fort is now in ruins. The ridge here forms the boundary between Champaran and Nepal.

⁸ Dinanath Upaddhaya, *vakil* of the Maharaja of Nepal.

⁹ *Tappa* H. a small tract or division of country, smaller than a *pargana*, but comprising one or more villages.

and Jamhauri, dependent on Fort Sumeswar from time immemorial, belonged to the Raja of Tunnohi¹ who regularly received the revenues from them. These *tappas* formed part of the Tunnohi *raj*² and were outside the *suba*³ of Bihar⁴. This fact can be corroborated from the records of Mr George Vansittart⁵. The Raja of Tunnohi was in course of time expelled by the Raja of Nepal who thereupon became the master of the entire *raj* of Tunnohi. But Ahmad Ali Khan, *Amil*⁶ of Champaran⁷, at the instigation of Thalon Chaudhri and other officials of the expelled Raja, seized upon the above-mentioned *tappas*. Meanwhile Maharaja Singh Partab Sah⁸ died and his son, Ran Bahadur Sah, succeeded him. Taking advantage of this opportunity, the officers of the expelled Raja approached Mr Graham⁹ (Chief of Patna Controlling Council of Revenue), offered him some *pesh-kash*¹⁰ and secured the possession of those *tappas*. At this the Maharaja wrote to the gentleman that the *tappas* belonged to him and that they should therefore be released in his favour. The gentleman procrastinated for some time. The Maharaja, out of regard for his friendship with the Company, did not like to press the matter further in the *mufassal*¹¹ but sent his *vakil* (the writer) to the then Governor-General, Mr Hastings¹². The latter ordered

¹ District in Nepal.

² H. kingdom, administration.

³ P. province, viceroy under Mughal government.

⁴ Province in British India.

⁵ Vansittart, George, Resident at Midnapore factory, 1768 ; Chief of the Council of Revenue at Patna, 1771; Member of Board 1773. I.R.D. : *Public Press List*.

⁶ A. a collector of revenue.

⁷ District in Bihar.

⁸ Singh Partab Sah, Gurkha Raja of Nepal (1771-5).

⁹ Graham, Major J ; Resident at Burdwan factory 1767 ; Chief of Patna Controlling Council of Revenue, 1772 ; President of the Board of Customs, 1773 ; Member of the Board of Revenue, 1786. I. R. D. : *Public Press List*.

¹⁰ P. offering or tribute paid to a superior man or to the government.

¹¹ A. country as opposed to town ; country districts and stations as distinguished from headquarters called *sadr*.

¹² Hastings, Warren (1732-1818). He was the first Governor-General of Bengal from 1774 to 85 A. D. and Governor, 1772-74.

Mr Duncan¹ to investigate the matter. Mr Duncan accordingly conducted an enquiry and prepared a report. About this time Mr Hastings set out on a tour of Upper India and ordered the *vakil* to accompany him promising to settle the case on his return journey to Patna². But the insurrection of Chait Singh³ intervening, the matter could not be taken up. Some time after Mr Hastings himself left for Europe. When the Maharaja heard of the addressee's arrival in India he again deputed the writer on the same mission. Has already represented the particulars of the case to the Governor-General and is awaiting his decision. Requests that orders may be issued to the Collector of Champaran directing him to release the above-named three *tappas* in favour of the writer's constituent and ordering him not to listen to the representations of the officers of the expelled Raja. In case the Company's *mutasaddis*⁴ be unwilling to forego the revenue from the *tappas* the writer's constituent, Maharaja Ran Bahadur Sah, would be prepared to take them on the same terms as the present holders. (*OR* 3 ; *TR* 27, pp 1-4, no 3 ; *AR* 4, p 484).

7. From Ali Ibrahim Khan⁵, Judge at Benares⁶. Has

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 452, f.n. 2.

² Capital of Bihar Province.

³ Chait Singh was the son of Balwant Singh, Raja of Benares. He succeeded his father in 1770 A. D. In August 1781 demands were made upon him, by Mr Hastings, the Governor-General, for additional tribute to be paid to the Company, as the sovereign power then required assistance in its exigency. Chait Singh declined, pleading willingness but inability. He was seized by Mr Hastings' order at Benares; a revolt took place on his behalf on 20 August; nearly two companies of sepoys and their officers were killed and the Raja escaped in the confusion. The Governor-General immediately assumed control of the province; and troops were called in to oppose the Raja, who now headed the numbers flocking to his support. He was defeated at Latifpur, his stronghold of Bijaigarh was seized, and his family plundered by a force under Major Popham. The Raja after his reverses at Latifpur fled to Gwalior where he died on 29 March 1810 A. D.—Beale : *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*.

⁴ *Mutasaddi* A. writer, accountant.

⁵ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 48, f.n. 3.

⁶ Town and district in United Provinces.

learnt with great satisfaction from the letter of Mirza Ali Naqi Khan¹ that the Governor-General has safely returned to Calcutta. Is employed heart and soul in the performance of the duties entrusted to him. Encloses copies of letters that the writer has written to the Maharaja of Nepal.

(1) *Ali Ibrahim Khan to Ran Bahadur Sah, Maharaja of Nepal.* Says that his joy knows no bounds when he hears from the pilgrims and merchants of Nepal, who visit Benares for pilgrimage, about the magnificence and wisdom of the Maharaja. The more these persons come to this country the more he learns from them about the good qualities of the addressee. Intimates that Lord Cornwallis² has arrived in India as the Governor-General of the Company's provinces and the Commander-in-Chief of their army and that his lordship has appointed Mr Jonathan Duncan for protecting and promoting the prosperity of the country of Benares while the writer has been entrusted with the duty of maintaining peace and tranquillity of the town of Benares. Says further that the pilgrims and merchants visiting Benares receive all possible assistance and facilities. It is his wish therefore that the merchants and the pilgrims of that quarter (Nepal) should visit Benares in ever increasing numbers with perfect ease of mind. Refers him to *Dharm Murat*³ *Deota Surat*⁴ Gosain Puranpuri *Tapassi*⁵ for particulars.

(2) *Ali Ibrahim Khan to Bahadur Sah, uncle and regent of Maharaja Ran Bahadur.* Professes friendship and requests replies to his letter and that of Mr Jonathan Duncan. (OR 4-5 ; TR 27, pp 4-6, no 4 ; AR 4, p 458).

8. *Dil Diler Khan*⁶ to Jonathan Duncan, Resident

¹ *Vakil* of Ali Ibrahim Khan.

² Cornwallis, Charles, first Marquis (1738-1805) : He was Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief from 1786 to 1793 A. D.

³ H. Lit., Image of righteousness, an epithet of respect.

⁴ H. Lit., Image of god, a term of respect.

⁵ S. an ascetic, a devotee.

⁶ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 307, *f.n.* 2.

1788

at Benares. Has received his letter enquiring about the payment of the writer's allowance. Says that the Governor-General had fixed his allowance from the beginning of *kharif*¹ season 1195 *Fasli*² (about April 1787) but he has uptill now received the allowance for two months only. As the writer is a resident of Benares he would suffer loss, if the suggestion of the Resident of Lucknow³ to pay the writer in Farrukhabad rupees is given effect to. But since he does not like to act contrary to the orders of the Company, he will acquiesce in their decision. (OR 6 ; TR 27, p 7, no 5 ; AR 4, p 467).

Jan. 2. 9. Rai Dipchand, Diwan of Nawab Dil Diler Khan, to Jonathan Duncan, Resident at Benares. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 7 ; TR 27, pp 7-8, no 6 ; AR 4, p 468).

Jan. 2. 10. From Maharaja Udwant Chand⁴. Congratulates the Governor-General on the happy occasion of Christmas. Sends a *nazr*⁵ and hopes that it will be accepted. (OR 8 ; TR 27, p 9, no 8 ; AR 4, p 460).

Jan. 2. 11. From Mirza Sultan Daud⁶. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 9 ; TR 27, p 9, no 10 ; AR 4, p 481).

Jan. 2. 12. From Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, son of Nawab Ihtiramud-Daulah⁷. Complimentary. (OR 10 ; TR 27, p 10, no 11 ; AR 4, p 489).

¹ A. harvest reaped in late autumn.

² P. harvest or revenue year. This era was instituted by Emperor Akbar.

³ Town and District in United Provinces. It was the capital of Nawab Asafud-Daulah.

⁴ Maharaja Udwant Chand was the eldest son of Raja Swarup Chand of the Seth family of Murshidabad. The title of Maharaja was conferred on him by Shah Alam in 1766. J. H. T. Walsh: *History of Murshidabad*.

⁵ P. ceremonial present or gift generally from an inferior to a superior.

⁶ He was the son-in-law of Saliha Begam, having married her daughter by Nawab Miran.—*For. Misc. Records Memoranda*, Vol. V.

⁷ Brother of Mir Jafar.

1788

Jan. 2.

13. From Maharani Bhawani¹. Says that in the year 1191 Bengali (1784-5) Mr John Shore² effected the *band-o-bast*³ of *pargana*⁴ Rajshahi⁵ with her for a term of four years and agreed to grant necessary deductions on account of her allowance and other expenses. She accordingly submitted to the Committee (of Revenue) at Calcutta a statement of account of her monthly allowance and other expenses allowed to her by the Company and got it endorsed by them. That paper is still with her and the deed of her *qabuliat*⁶ is among the records of the Company. Agreeably to the arrangement she got the deductions for the years 1191 and 1192 Bengali (1784-5 and 1785-6). She remained in possession of the zamindari for three years after which the ryots began to give her trouble and caused a deadlock by refusing to pay their quarterly instalments. In this manner she fell into arrears but she still managed to pay off the government revenue by borrowing from the bankers and even by selling her household effects. In 1193 Bengali (1786-7) her dues to the Company amounted to a sum of Rs. 6,68,566-12 annas whereas the Company owed her a sum of Rs. 6,18,000 on account of her allowance and other expenses while her dues from the ryots in the *mufassal* amounted to about five lakhs of rupees, as Mr Peter Speke⁷ will testify. Though she has these assets, the *parganas* of Swaruppur⁸ and Rajapur⁸ belonging to her, were sold in liquidation of her dues to the Government. She now hears that a proposal is afoot to sell her other

¹ Zamindar of Rajshahi. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 448, f.n. 3.

² Sir John Shore entered the Company's service as a writer in 1769. He became Member of the Revenue Council at Calcutta in 1775 ; Member of the Supreme Council in 1787 and Governor-General in 1793. He died on 14 Feb. 1834.

³ P. settlement of revenue to be paid by zamindar, renter or farmer to government.

⁴ P. subdivision of a district.

⁵ District and division in Bengal.

⁶ A. acceptance, a receipt, assent, consent, approbation ; written agreement to pay rent etc, counterpart of a lease.

⁷ Collector of Rajshahi.

⁸ *Pargana* in *sarkar* Mahmudabad in the zamindari of Rajshahi.

1788

*mahals*¹ also. Says that under the patronage of the Governor-General no one has yet been deprived of his legal rights nor has any one been driven out of his ancestral home. Is now experiencing great difficulties which it is impossible for her to overcome without the Governor-General's favour. Prays therefore that the various sums due to her in respect of her allowance, etc. may be credited to her so that she may remain in possession of her ancestral property and pray for the prosperity of the Governor-General. (OR 11; TR 27, pp 10-13, no 12; AR 4, p 460).

Jan. 2. 14. From Muhammad Ghulam Taqi Khan, Afzal Ali and Yadgar Ali, sons of Muhammad Baqir Khan deceased. Say that their grandfather held a *jagir*² of 4,100 *dams*³ in *pargana* Goh⁴ in the *suba* of Bihar. After the death of their grandfather the *jagir* devolved on their father and on the latter's death the *pargana* came into their hands. The petitioners remained in possession of the *jagir* till the end of autumn of 1193 *Fasli* (1785-6). Thereafter the *amalas*⁵ of Mr Holt and Mr Bushby unjustly confiscated the *jagir*. Since all of the petitioners have large families to maintain and have no other means of support except the income from the *jagir*, they pray that necessary orders may be issued for the restoration of the *jagir* to them. (OR 12; TR 27, pp 13-14, no 13; AR 4, p 491).

Jan. 2. 15. From Husain Bakhsh Khan, son of Muhammad Wilayat Khan. Says that a *jagir* of 1,99,286 *dams* in the *parganas* of Archha⁴ and Goh belonged to his father who expired on 14 *Jumada*⁶ II (4 Mar. 1787). Prays that the *jagir* may now be renewed to him. (OR 13; TR 27, p 14, no 14; AR 4, p 472).

¹ A. places, districts or sources of revenue.

² P. hereditary assignment of land and its rent as annuity.

³ *Dam*. H. a copper coin or a measure of money value, equal to one twenty-fifth of a *paisa* or pice at the present time : in the time of Akbar the *dam* is said to have been of the value of one fortieth of a rupee.

⁴ *Pargana* in Gaya District, Bihar.

⁵ P. ministerial officers, workers.

⁶ *Jumada* I, II, A., 5th and 6th months of the lunar year.

1788

- Jan. 2.* 16. From Raja Uttam Chand. Has learnt with great satisfaction that the Governor-General has safely returned to Calcutta. Sends a *nazr* of 5 *ashrafs*¹ and hopes that it will be accepted. (*OR* 14; *TR* 27, p 15, no 15; *AR* 4, p 488).
- Jan. 2.* 17. From Saliha Begam². Sends her Christmas greetings. (*TR* 27, p 9, no 9; *AR* 4, p 489).
- Jan. 3.* 18. From Haidar Beg Khan³. Has already explained to the Governor-General in his previous letter the reasons for the delay in the payment of the Company's dues at Lucknow and in the discharge of the bills despatched by Raja Bachhraj⁴ and Lala Kashmiri Mal⁵ to Calcutta. As the Khan had deposited the amount of the bills with those bankers long before they became due, he enquired of them about the reasons for the non-payment of the money at Calcutta in proper time. They have submitted their explanation which the Khan encloses in original for the information of the Governor-General. Is confident that by the time the letter reaches him the money would have been paid into the Treasury. Regarding the payment of money at Lucknow, says that delay occurred owing to certain dislocation in the collection of revenue here as also to the fact that the allowance of the Prince⁶ as well as the salary of the gentlemen stationed in 'this' country had to be paid at the same time. Thank God that he has now paid off the Company's dues. Is not remiss in attending to the business of the Nawab Vazir and the Company. Hopes that the Governor-General will always be kind to him.

¹ *Ashrafi*. P. name of a gold coin; a gold mohur.

² Wife of Nawab Sadiq Ali Khan *alias* Miran and step-mother of Mir Murtaza Khan.

³ Minister of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 4, f.n. 5.

⁴ The banker. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 133, f.n. 4.

⁵ One of the leading bankers of India. He used to live at Benares but had banking houses in all the principal cities.

⁶ Jahandar Shah, the eldest son of Shah Alam II. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 4, f.n. 3.

1788

(1) *Raja Bachhraj and Lala Kashmiri Mal to Haidar Beg Khan*. Have received his letter enquiring about the reason for the non-payment of the Company's dues at Calcutta notwithstanding the fact that the money had been provided long before it became due. Say in reply that the bills for the amount were duly despatched to Calcutta but the delay in the payment might possibly have been caused by the bankers having fixed a deferred date for their discharge. Have, however, sent instructions to their *gumashta*¹ at Calcutta to make the payment into the Company's Treasury immediately and to be very careful in future about the discharge of bills whose terms have expired. (OR 15-16; TR 27, pp 15-17 no 16; AR 4, p 472).

Jan. 3. 19. From Haidar Beg Khan. Is gratified to learn that he has safely returned to Calcutta. Prays for his health and prosperity. Hopes to be favoured with frequent letters. (OR 17; TR 27, p 18, no 17; AR 4, p 472).

Jan. 3². 20. To the King of Achin³. Is delighted to receive his letter and the presents through Capt. Kyd⁴. Says that Madras cannot be a suitable recruiting-ground for his troops because of the increased local requirements due to the hostilities prevailing in that part of the country for a long time. Advises him therefore to depute a reliable person to Calcutta to recruit troops for his service from Bengal. Sends a few presents in return. Hopes that friendly and commercial relations with the addressee will increase day

¹ P. agent, representative, officer appointed by a zamindar to collect rents, by a merchant to carry on trade in different places.

² Jan. 4, according to the vol. of abstracts.

³ A small state in the north-western part of Sumatra.

⁴ Alexander Kyd (1754-1826), Chief Engr. at Calcutta, was born in Scotland. Appointed cadet on the Bengal estt. in 1775. Became Captain in 1781 and Lt. Gen. in 1819. He was the son of James Kyd, Capt. R. N. and was related to Robert Kyd whose property also was inherited by Alexander Kyd. He was Town Major at Fort William in 1787 and he also undertook the construction of fortifications on the Andamans. In 1803 he was Engr. in the field at Allahabad. In Sept. 1807 he became Chief Engineer at Calcutta. He had been on furlough from 1810 till his death which occurred in London on 25 Nov. 1826.—Hodson: *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

1788

by day. For particulars refers him to Capt. Kyd. (CI 20, pp 3-4, no 3 ; AR 4, p 522, no 3).

Jan. 3¹. 21. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah². Has received a complaint from Mr Titsingh³, the Dutch Director, that Khan Jahan Khan⁴ has been guilty of rudeness towards the Director. It is learnt that the Khan used objectionable language in his letters to Mr Titsingh which were written on the subject of the removal of guards from the house of Mir Muhammad Kazim Khan⁵, deceased. Asks the Nawab to direct Khan Jahan Khan that he should apologise to the Dutch Director for the reported misbehaviour. (CI 20, p 4, no 4 ; AR 4, p 539, no 4).

Jan. 4. 22. From Muhammad Riza Khan⁶. Says that his salary up to the month of May (1787) amounting to a sum of Rs. 31,225 is in arrears. Requests the Governor-General therefore to issue necessary orders for its payment. (OR 18; TR 27, p 36, no 20; AR 4, p 478).

Jan. 4. 23. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that the Governor-General must have heard of the distress of the inhabitants of Murshidabad⁷ caused by inundation this year. The bridges constructed under the supervision of Mr Burges⁸ have withstood the flood but the condition of other bridges is shaky. The said gentleman, who is proceeding to Calcutta, will make personal representation about them. A big fissure has appeared behind the bridge at a place called Bulaq Beg near Mahajan Toli⁹.

¹ Jan. 4, according to the vol. of abstracts.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 1, f.n. 4.

³ Isaac Titsingh, Dutch Director at Chinsura (1788-91).

⁴ *Faujdar* of Hooghly (1773-75).

⁵ *Faujdar* of Hooghly (1765-67).

⁶ *Naib Nazim* of Bengal. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 2, f.n. 2.

⁷ Town and district in Bengal formerly capital of the province.

⁸ Edward Eyre Burges was Judge of the *Diwani Adalat* at Murshidabad and he subsequently became Judge and Magistrate of Nadia which post he resigned in 1798 on account of ill-health. He died in Calcutta on 23 May 1801 at the age of 50.

⁹ A locality in Murshidabad.

1788

If the breach is not immediately filled up it will be a menace to Mahajan Toli as well as to the entire city of Murshidabad. The Nawab has himself visited the spot accompanied by Mr Burges. Hopes that the question of repairs to bridges and embankments will receive the serious consideration of the Governor-General. (*OR* 19; *TR* 27, pp 36-7, no 21; *AR* 4, p 478).

Jan. 4. 24. From Faizullah Khan. Is gratified to learn from the letter of the Governor-General that he has safely returned to Calcutta. Says that he is ever praying for the health and prosperity of the Governor-General. Hopes to be favoured with letters. (*OR* 20; *TR* 27, pp 37-8, no 22; *AR* 4, p 468).

Jan. 4. 25. From Ijaz Ali Khan, son of Shukrullah Khan. Says that in obedience to his lordship's orders he would have paid his respects to him by now. But the death of his brother, Qamarud-Din Ali Khan who attended on his lordship, having taken place in the meanwhile he was prevented from accomplishing this object. Requests permission to proceed to Calcutta now. (*OR* 21; *TR* 27, pp 38-9, no 23; *AR* 4, p 492).

Jan. 4¹. 26. From the Raja of Benares. Forwards the account of the *nazrana*² and *bharai*³ of *sarkar*⁴ Benares.

1. 1190 *Fasli* or 1783 A.D.

<i>Nazrana</i>	.	.	.	Rs.	1,08,500
<i>Bharai</i>	.	.	.	Rs.	46,985-14
Total					Rs. 1,55,485-14

2. 1191 *Fasli* or 1784 A.D.

<i>Nazrana</i>	.	.	.	Rs.	1,08,500
<i>Bharai</i>	.	.	.	Rs.	48,202-11-1
Total					Rs. 1,56,702-11-1

¹ Received in Persian Office on 4 Sep. 1787.

² A. a gift or present; the fee paid to Govt. as an acknowledgment for a grant of land or any public office etc.

³ H. an allowance formerly made to the Govt. revenue officer in the province of Bareilly and Benares, to cover the cost of remitting the collection to the Govt. Treasury.

⁴ P. tract of a territory under Muhammadan rule, corresponding to a district or division under British rule; the supreme administrative body of a country; the Government.

3. 1192 *Fasli* or 1785 A.D.

<i>Nazrana</i>	.	.	.	Rs.	1,20,425
<i>Bharai</i>	.	.	.	Rs.	46,936-3-2

Total . Rs. 1,67,361-3-2

4. 1193 *Fasli* or 1786 A.D.

<i>Nazrana kachahri</i> ¹	.	Rs.	95,350 ²
<i>Nazrana khanagi</i> ³	.	Rs.	51,614
<i>Bardasht</i> ⁴	.	Rs.	33,763
<i>Bharai</i>	.	Rs.	32,697-1-1
<i>Sadr khazana</i> ⁵	.	Rs.	54,492-0-0

Total . Rs. 2,67,916-1-1

5. 1194 *Fasli* or 1787 A.D.

<i>Nazrana kachahri</i>	.	Rs.	1,00,000
<i>Nazrana khanagi</i>	.	Rs.	63,200
From the Treasury	.	Rs.	31,518 8
Account of Sher Jang ⁶	.	Rs.	16,819 3
<i>Bharai</i>	.	Rs.	37,164 2 5
<i>Rusum khazana</i> ⁷	.	Rs.	18,000 0 0

Total . Rs. 2,66,701 13 5

(*TR* 27, pp 18-33, no 18).

Jan. 4. 27. Copy of the questions put to Babu Sarabjit Singh⁸ of Benares under the orders of the Board.

1. In 1193 *Fasli* (1785-6) Mr James Grant⁹ is alleged to have taken by way of loan the sum of Rs. 51,494 under the

¹ Fees etc. received from Courts.

² According to another account this figure was Rs. 99,842, a sum of Rs. 4,492 having been shown on a separate sheet and not added to the figure given here. *Vide* no 40 below.

³ P. Personal, private.

⁴ P. Stores, supplies furnishing porters and provisions to Govt. officers and troops.

⁵ (*Sadr*, A.=Central, chief: the chief seat of government, the presidency, as opposed to the provinces or *mufassal*. *Khazana* P. revenue), revenue received at the headquarter.

⁶ Saiyid Muhammad Khan Sher Jang was the *Darogha* of the Benares mint.

⁷ P. Treasury fees.

⁸ *Vakil* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh.

⁹ Resident at Benares. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 147, f.n. 2.

denomination of *nizdat*¹. Since Lala Kashmiri Mal was the treasurer of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh and as such it was he who was accountable for all sums received and payments made by him, what are the grounds on which the above sum is charged to the account of Mr Grant and why should not Kashmiri Mal be called upon to account for the sum ?

2. In 1193 *Fasli* (1785-6) Mr Grant is alleged to have taken or caused or authorised to be taken the sum of Rs. 36,9 76-8-0 from the revenue of *sadr kachahri*² on account of *farmaishat*³ and to have appropriated the same to his own use. It appears that this sum includes one of Rs. 3,218-8-0 under the head *bardasht*. Proofs of this charge must be adduced with the necessary documents.

3. A statement of the particulars of the sums remitted under the head of *amani*⁴ and *muaafi-mamuli*⁵ at the time of effecting the settlement with Raja Mahip Narayan Singh in 1781 should be produced.

4. Discrepancies occur between the sums stated in the accounts delivered to the Governor-General by the Raja and those stated in the account submitted by the Babu. What is the reason of this ? (*CI 20, pp 189-90, no 173; AR 4, p 549, no 15*).

Jan. 4.

28. To Nawab Diler Himmat Khan⁶. Has received his letter. Is pleased to learn that the Nawab has paid

¹ P. A suspense account.

² H. The principal revenue office of a district or estate, that of the collector or zamindar.

³ P. requisition on a village for small articles of consumption, as grass, firewood, etc., formerly levied for the use of the district officers.

⁴ This term is applied especially to the collection of the revenue direct from the cultivators by the officers of Government upon the removal or suspension of an intermediate claimant or zamindar.

⁵ Customary deductions from the Government revenue made formerly to the native collectors and farmers on account of charitable allowances; similar remission made by them to their subordinates or to the cultivators.

⁶ Nawab of Farrukhabad. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 5, f.n. 9.

1788

the instalment due to the Nawab Vazir. Hopes that the addressee will pay the instalments similarly in future. (*CI* 20, pp 190-1, no 173a; *AR* 4, p 532, no 5).

Jan. 4. 29. To Nawab Khiradmand Khan¹. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, p 174, no 191; *AR* 4, p 536, no 6).

Jan. 4. 30. To Raja Gobind Ram². Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 192, no 175; *AR* 4, p 533, no 7).

Jan. 4. 31. To Maharaja Udwant Chand. Thanks him for his congratulatory message on the occasion of Christmas. Appreciates this expression of friendship on the part of the Raja but regrets his inability to accept the *nazr*. (*CI* 20, pp 192-3, no 176).

Jan. 4. 32. To Bahadur Zaman Khan³, Zamindar of Birbhum⁴. Has received his letter. Is glad to learn of his readiness to discharge, by instalments, the balances due from him. The Khan will win the approbation of the Governor-General if he, agreeably to his promise, attends to the payment of his balances. (*CI* 20, pp 193-4, no 177; *AR* 4, p 524, no 9).

Jan. 4. 33. To Maharaja Radhanath⁵ of Dinajpur⁶. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 194, no 178; *AR* 4, p 530, no 10).

¹ Brother-in-law of Nawab Diler Himmat Khan.

² *Vakil* of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 11, f.n. 4.

³ Bahadur Zaman Khan was the son of Badiuz-Zaman Khan and had inherited the zamindari of Birbhum after the death of his half brother, Asaduz-Zaman Khan, about the year 1776. He died in 1789.

⁴ District in Bengal.

⁵ Raja Radhanath, the adopted son of Raja Baidyanath, succeeded to the zamindari of Dinajpur on the death of the latter in 1780. The estate was so mismanaged under him that by the close of 1800 A.D. almost the whole of the property had been alienated and the Raja was virtually a prisoner in his own house, as his creditors were threatening to seize his person and have him imprisoned. Raja Radhanath died in 1801 A.D. at the early age of 24.

⁶ District and town in Rajshahi Division, Bengal.

1788

- Jan. 4. 34. To Rani Bishan Kunwar¹, mother of Raja Tej-Chand² of Burdwan³. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 195, no 179; *AR* 4, p 524, no 11).
- Jan. 4. 35. To Mirza Sultan Daud. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 195-6, no 180; *AR* 4, p 540, no 12).
- Jan. 5⁴. 36. From Raja Mahip Narayan. The following are the particulars which Babu Sarabjit Singh has represented respecting Mr James Grant.

1. The sum of Rs. 1,95,000 on account of *nazrana kachah-ri* for 1193 and 1194 *Fasli*, which was settled according to the papers of the *amils*, was taken by Mr Grant in specie from the Treasury and written off by the *khazanchi*⁵.

2. The sum of Rs. 52,729-11 was appropriated by him in specie from the Treasury and carried to account in Treasurer's book, Rs. 4,492 in 1193, and Rs. 48,237-11 in 1194. This will be proved by the papers and doubtless Babu Sarabjit Singh will have delivered the paper signed by the Treasurer.

3. The sum of Rs. 1,14,814 was taken by Mr Grant as *nazrana* for himself. The proof of it is this that this year also it is settled with the *amils* as last year and the said *nazrana* is included in the settlement and even increased. It was Rs. 51,614 in 1193 and Rs. 63,200 in 1194.

4. In the year 1193 *Fasli* he took a bill from Lala Kashmiri Mal, who at that time was Comptroller of Treasury, for the sum of Rs. 50,000 without the writer's knowledge and it is entered by the *gumashta* of Kashmiri Mal in the annual Treasury accounts under the heading of *nazrana* and still remains in the accounts of that year under the same heading. The accounts will establish the allegations.

¹ Dowager Rani of Burdwan.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 23, f.n. 1.

³ Town and district in Bengal.

⁴ Received in Persian Office on 5 November 1787.

⁵ P. Treasurer.

1788

5. The sum of Rs. 69,861-3½ on account of *bharai* was taken in specie from the Treasury. The proof of this will appear from the Treasury accounts. In the year 1193 *Fasli* the sum was Rs. 32,697-1-1, and in the year 1194, Rs. 37,164-2-1.

6. The sum of Rs. 33,700 was taken from the *amanat*¹ as custom *mahals* of Benares in the year 1193 on account of *bardasht* and for expenses in making silver things. The writer has in his possession the annual accounts under the seal and signature of Sundar Pandit who was appointed on the part of Mr Grant to the *sarishtadari*² of the *amanat kachahri*³.

7. The proofs of the oppression of Ram Chand Pandit, *naib*⁴ for the purchase of *chini*⁵, etc., which have been advanced, are evident, for many complaints on these subjects have been delivered to Mr Duncan, who has redressed them and issued a proclamation over all the *mahals*.

8. The sum of Rs. 1,800 on account of *rusum-i-khazanchi* or Treasury fees, was allowed as a resource for the balances. Mr Grant gave an order to his own treasurer and took this amount. The proof of it is this that Mr Duncan, after he had investigated this case, ordered the amount to be given back. (*TR* 27, pp 33-6, no 19; *AR* 4, p 460).

Jan. 6.

37. From the Prince (Jahandar Shah). Is exceedingly pleased to learn from his letter that he has safely returned to Calcutta after visiting the various towns (of Upper India) and inspecting the troops stationed there. Intimates that he has now arrived in Delhi and that he has duly paid his respects to His Majesty⁶ who has been graciously pleased to honour him with a *khilat*⁷. Hopes

¹ P. (from *amin*, revenue officer) office of an *amin*.

² (From *sarishtadar*, officer who lays petitions before judicial officer and writes down orders passed on them; record keeper), office of a *sarishtadar*.

³ H. Court of *amin*.

⁴ A. Deputy, assistant.

⁵ H. sugar.

⁶ Shah Alam II, Mughal Emperor (1759-1806).

⁷ A dress of honour presented by a superior to an inferior as a mark of distinction.

1788

to receive letters from him frequently. (*OR* 22; *TR* 27, pp 39-40, no 24; *AR* 4, p 486).

Jan. 6. 38. From Nawab Walajah¹. Says that being an old adherent and well-wisher of the Company he considers it his duty to communicate his sentiments and advice to the Company whenever he sees that their interests are at stake, for the interests of the writer and the Company are identical. It appears that Tipu Sultan² having achieved success over the Marathas has now determined to turn his arms against a tributary of the Nawab, the Raja of Travancore.³ Probably he wants to involve the Carnatic⁴ again in a war. Has written a letter to Sir Archibald Campbell⁵ pointing out the mode which in his opinion should be immediately adopted to frustrate the designs of that haughty and ambitious chief and punish his contumacy, if he attempts to disturb the Nawab and his ally. Will not trouble his lordship with a recapitulation of what he has written to Sir Archibald Campbell on this subject because the letter itself will be transmitted to him. The letter reveals his genuine sentiments and the measures suggested therein are regarded to be the best in the present situation of affairs for the mutual safety of the Company and the Nawab and for the perpetual security of peace and tranquillity. It is hoped that his lordship will give his immediate attention to them. (*TR* 27, pp 40-2, no 25; *AR* 4, p 460).

Jan 7. 39. Paper delivered by Babu Sarabjit Singh containing the questions put to him under the orders of the Board together with their answers.

¹ Nawab of Arcot. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 3, f.n. 1.

² Tipu Sultan, Ruler of Mysore (1782-1799 A.D.).

³ State in South India.

⁴ The territories of the Nawab of Arcot.

⁵ Sir Archibald Campbell (1739-91). Major General and K.B. Appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Madras in 1786. Resigned in 1789 due to ill-health. Died at London 1791.—Buckland: *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

Question

Answer

1. In 1193 *Fasli* (1785-6) Mr James Grant is alleged to have taken by way of loan the sum of Rs. 51,494 under the denomination of *Nizdat*. Since Lala Kashmiri Mal was the Treasurer of Raja Mahip Narayan and as such it was he who was accountable for all sums received and payments made by him, what are the grounds on which the above sum is charged to the account of Mr Grant and why should not Kashmiri Mal be called upon to account for the sum?
1. With respect to the *Nizdat* it is submitted that when Mr Grant took the sum from the Treasury, Lala Kashmiri Mal informed the Raja of this. The Raja accordingly enquired of Mr Grant who acknowledged having received the amount but in spite of repeated requests of the Raja the gentleman refused to give credit for it. The result was that at the close of 1193 *Fasli* (1785-6) the *gumashta* of Lala Kashmiri Mal credited this amount to the account of Mr Grant. Under these circumstances Lala Kashmiri Mal cannot be held accountable for this sum. Is awaiting the decision of the Board and will act according to their orders.
2. In 1193 *Fasli* (1785-6) Mr Grant is alleged to have taken or caused or authorised to be taken the sum of Rs 36,976-8-0 from the revenue of *Sadr Kachahri* on account of *Farmaishat* and to have appropriated the same to his own use. It appears that this sum includes one of Rs. 3,213-8-0 under the head of *baridasht*. Proofs of this charge must be adduced with the necessary documents.
2. As proofs of *Farmaishat*, says that this item belonged to the department of *amanat* and customs which had one *Sarishtadar* on the part of the Resident and another on the part of the Raja in the year 1193 *Fasli*. Hari Pandit, who was the *Sarishtadar* on the part of Mr Grant, entered this sum on account of *Farmaishat* and lodged a statement with his seal and signature in the *Sadr Sarishta*¹. The said statement can be produced, if required. As regards the amount, the Treasurer's book duly signed by his *gumashta* is available and may be inspected.
3. A statement of the particulars of the sums remitted under the head of *Amani* and *Muaafi-mamuli* at the time of effecting the settlement with Raja Mahip Narayan Singh in 1781 should be produced.
3. The statement of the particulars of the sums remitted under the head of *Muaafi-mamuli* etc., for the period in question is not available. But copies of papers containing requests made for remission at the time-

¹ P. head office, record office, department.

of making the settlement with Mr Hastings' signed orders affixed on them can be produced.

4. Discrepancies occur between the sums stated in the accounts delivered to the Governor-General by the Raja and those stated in the accounts submitted by the Babu. What is the reason of this ?

4. The explanation of the difference between the papers delivered by the Raja and those delivered by the Babu himself is submitted separately¹.

(OR 23 ; TR 27, pp 42-5, no 26 ; AR 4, p 490).

Jan. 7. 40. Particulars of the difference in the accounts delivered by Babu Sarabjit Singh, and those delivered by Raja Mahip Narayan Singh at Benares for the *Fasli* years 1193-4.

Denomination	As per papers delivered by		As per papers delivered by		Difference in the latter or comparison		Remarks by Babu Sarabjit Singh
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
On account of 1193 <i>Fasli</i>							
<i>Bharai</i>	
<i>Nizdat and Bardasht</i>	
<i>Farmaishat</i>	
<i>Nazrana Kachahri</i>	
<i>Nazrana Khanagi</i>	

5

4

3

2

1

On account of 1194 *Fasli*

Bharai 29,130 4 0 37,164 2 5 +8,033 14 5 The Babu had submitted the account up to *Jeth*¹ whereas the Raja had carried it to the end of the year, hence the difference.

Farmaishat 13,000 0 0 . . . —13,000 0 0 When the Raja delivered his account the sum of Rs. 13,000 was received and so he excluded this amount from his account.

From the Revenue of the *Sadr* 31,243 8 0 31,518 8 0 +275 0 0 The Babu submitted the account up to *Jeth* whereas the Raja carried it to the end of the year, hence the difference.

Nazrana Kachahri . . . 1,00,000 0 0 1,00,000 0 0 Nil.

Rusum Khazana . . . 19,502 11 5 18,000 0 0 — 1,502 11 5 The actual amount under this head was Rs. 19,502-11-5 as shown by the Babu, but the Raja received the sum of Rs. 18,000 in full satisfaction and did not press for the balance of Rs. 1,502-11-5.

Nazrana Khanagi 63,200 0 0 +63,200 0 0 Already explained.

Appropriated by Sher Jang . . . 16,819 3 0 +16,819 3 0 Already explained.

(OR 24; TR 27, pp 46-50, no 27; AR 4, p 490).

¹ H. the second Hindi solar month corresponding to May-June.

Jan. 8.

41. From Nandaw¹, Raja of Pegu. Says that during the tyrannous reign of Magh² Raja, the former ruler of Rangoon³, no trading vessels of the Company could come to 'this' part of the country for purposes of trade. The writer, in order to get rid of this situation, waged war against him, and killed him and most of his troops and subjugated the country which now enjoys perfect peace and tranquillity. Thinks it but proper that a trade relation should now be established between the writer's country and that of the English. Assures the Governor-General that merchantmen coming from the Company's territories will receive all protection and facility in the writer's country and hopes that a similar treatment would be accorded to the writer's vessels visiting the Company's dominions. Sends some presents for the Governor-General through the Maun (Maywoon)⁴. (OR 25 ; TR 27, p 52, no 28 ; AR 4, p 487).

Jan. 8.

42. From King Shah Alam. Has heard from the Prince (Jahandar Shah) that his lordship had agreed to pay in advance the sum of one lakh of rupees for the necessary expenses of the Prince out of the *peshkash* allowed to him by the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah). Has learnt that it was also agreed to give the Prince a bill on condition of his arrival at Shahjahanabad⁵. Says that as he (the Prince) has been here for the last fifteen days and has been honoured with the control over the affairs of his kingdom, the officers of the Vazir should be ordered by his lordship to despatch the amount of the bill immediately. (OR 26 ; TR 27, pp 54-5, no 30 ; AR 4, p 475).

¹ Nandaw appears to be the equivalent of Raja in Burmese. Probably this letter came from Bodawpaya, King of Burma (1781-1819), who reduced Arakan in 1784 and received the first British embassy under Capt. Symes at Amarapura.

² Magh=Arakanese.

³ Zajang, according to the contemporary Persian translation. Rangoon was variously known as Dagon and Dzangoon in former times. Symes : *Embassy to Ava*.

⁴ Maywoon=Viceroy of a province. Here probably the Viceroy of Pegu is meant.

⁵ City of Delhi so named after Emperor Shah Jahan.

1788

- Jan. 8.* 43. From the Vazir of the King of Pegu. Says that after the conquest of Rangoon and Sandoway¹, the writer was appointed *Naib* to the King. Has now received orders from his King for the purchase of jewels, cloth, gold, and horses of different pedigrees. Says that formerly several vessels used to frequent this country and sundry articles that were in demand were procured. For some years past no ships have visited this country and consequently those articles could not be had. Now that peace and order prevail in the country and cultivation is in perfection, it is requested that some vessels may be sent to Pegu laden with the required articles so that they may be purchased in exchange for the produce of this country. (*TR* 27, pp 53-4, no 29; *AR* 4, p 487).
- Jan. 9.* 44. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Benares. Congratulates him on the occasion of Christmas. (*OR* 27; *TR* 27, p 55, no 31; *AR* 4, p 458).
- Jan. 9.* 45. From Saadat Ali Khan², brother of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Complimentary. (*OR* 28 ; *TR* 27, p 55, no 33 ; *AR* 4, p 489).
- Jan. 9.* 46. From Bishambhar Pandit³. Informs him that Harⁱ Bhadar Pandit is on his way to see the Governor-General and that the writer would arrive there shortly. (*OR* 29 ; *TR* 27, p 56, no 34; *AR* 4, p 461).
- Jan. 9.* 47. From Beniram Pandit⁴. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 30 ; *TR* 27, p 56, no 35; *AR* 4, p 461).
- Jan. 9.* 48. From Beniram Pandit. Says that immediately on receipt of his lordship's orders through Mr Cherry⁵ the

¹ District in Arakan Division, Lower Burma.

² Brother of Nawab Asafud-Daulah on whose accession to the *masnad* of Oudh he came away to live at Monghyr and afterwards at Benares. He succeeded his brother in 1798 and ruled till 1814.

³ *Vakil* of Mudhoji Bhonsla. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 12, f. n. 2.

⁴ *Vakil* of Mudhoji Bhonsla. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 12, f. n. 1.

⁵ G. F. Cherry, Deputy Persian Translator. For biographical note see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 311, f. n. 3.

writer sent two messengers to Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla¹ at Nagpur in order to bring ten maunds of wheat of the best quality, and that as soon as wheat is brought to Benares he would forward it to his lordship. Informs him that Hari Bhadar Pandit left Benares on 25 *Safar*² 1202 A. H. (6 Dec. 1787) to wait upon the Governor-General and that his brother, Bishambhar Pandit, will shortly proceed to Calcutta. (*OR* 31; *TR* 27, pp 56-7, no 36 ; *AR* 4, p 461).

Jan. 10. 49. From Hasan Riza Khan³. Is glad to hear that his lordship having visited the different stations and reviewed the Company's troops has arrived safely at Calcutta. (*OR* 32; *TR* 27, pp 57-8, no 37 ; *AR* 4, p 473).

Jan. 10. 50. To Dhokal Singh⁴, Raja of Bundelkhand⁵. Complimentary reply to his letter. (*CI* 20, pp 5-6, no 5 ; *AR* 4, p 530, no 21).

Jan. 10. 51. To Beni Das Huzuri⁶, *Diwan*⁷ of Raja Dhokal Singh. Complimentary. (*CI* 20, p 6, no 6 ; *AR* 4, p 530, no 22).

Jan. 10. 52. To Nawab Saadat Ali Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 196-7, no 181 ; *AR* 4, p 549, no 17).

Jan. 10. 53. To Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has received his letter congratulating him on the occasion of Christmas and on his safe return to Calcutta. Acknowledges also the receipt

¹ Regent of Nagpur. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol VII, p 5, f. n. 16.

² A. 2nd month of the lunar year.

³ *Naib* of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 4, f. n. 6.

⁴ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 342, f. n. 3.

⁵ The land of the Bundelas. A tract of country in the United Provinces, which includes the Districts of Jalaun, Jhansi, Hamirpur and Banda, with those parts of Allahabad which lie south of the Jumna and the Ganges.

⁶ After the death in 1776 of Hindupat, Raja of Bundelkhand, Beni Das Huzuri became *Diwan* to his son, Anrodh Singh, who was a minor, and took part in the civil war that ensued. After the death of Anrodh he espoused the cause of Dhokal Singh, third son of Hindupat. He became very influential and acquired considerable territory.

⁷ P. Chief Officer of State, head of the Revenue and Finance Departments, Minister.

1788

of the copies of letters written by the Khan to the Raja of Nepal. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 197, no 182 ; *AR* 4, p 522, no 18).

- Jan. 10. 54. To Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. Has received his letter congratulating him on the occasion of Christmas. Returns the *nazr* as it is not the custom now to accept it, but appreciates the compliment. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 197-8, no 183 ; *AR* 4, p 525, no 19).
- Jan. 10. 55. To Raja Uttam Chand, *vakil* of Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received his *nazr* and his letter through Lala Shambhunath *gumashta* of Raja Bachhraj, congratulating him on the occasion of Christmas. Regrets that he is unable to accept the *nazr* but, all the same, he appreciates the spirit in which it has been offered. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 198, no 184 ; *AR* 4, p 545, no 20).
- Jan. 11. 56. From Mansaram, *gumashta* of the firm of Gopal Das¹ at Lucknow. Says that having obtained leave of his lordship the writer arrived at Lucknow. Is glad to learn from the letter of Gopal Das that the Governor-General has reached Calcutta safely. (*OR* 33 ; *TR* 27, pp 58-9, no 38 ; *AR* 4, p 470).
- Jan. 11. 57. From Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter informing him of the appointment of Major Palmer² as Resident with him. Is pleased to learn that the Major possesses a good disposition and that it will be his aim to strengthen the friendship between him and the English. Says that after meeting Major Palmer he

¹ Gopal Das Sahu, a well-known banker of Benares. In 1787 his firm had its branches at Calcutta, Murshidabad, Patna, Gaya, Ghazipur, Mirzapur, Allahabad, Lucknow, Bareilly, Jaipur, Nagpur, Surat, Bombay, Masulipatam, Madras, Tanda, Phulpur, Poona, and Army Agencies at Agra, Delhi, Ahmedabad and Baroda. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 326, no 1182.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 6, f. n. 2.

found that the Major was really gifted with talents and abilities. (*OR 34 ; TR 27, p 59, no 39 ; AR 4, p 489*).

Jan. 11. 58. From Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia. Is pleased to learn from his letter that the Governor-General after visiting different military stations and inspecting the Company's troops has arrived at Calcutta safely. Hopes to hear from him frequently. (*OR 35 ; TR 27, p 60, no 40 ; AR 4, p 489*).

Jan. 12. 59. From Mir Muhammad Husain¹. Says that his lordship must have perused the Nizam's letter which the writer forwarded to him. Has resided in Hyderabad² in spite of bodily infirmities and unsuitable climate in order to comply with his lordship's orders. Has been in indifferent health for some time because the climate does not agree with him. Further, he has been there like a prisoner because in apprehension of the displeasure of the Nizam no one comes to his house nor does anybody suffer him (the writer) to visit his place. There are positive orders that if any one should seek medical help from an English physician, who chanced to arrive at Hyderabad his *jagir* will be confiscated. Requests that his lordship should recall him so that he may recoup his health and see his family after an absence of four years.

Says that since peace has been established with Tipu through the Marathas there is nothing to report except matters of common occurrence such as the Nizam's going in and out of his apartments, the increase in the demands on the *amils*, the severity in the collection of the duties and the enlistment and discharge of troops, etc. Informs him that the Nizam sent a person with presents to Tipu Sultan in order to strengthen friendship with him. Tipu is said to

¹ One of the early Indian visitors to England, France and Portugal. Accompanied Mr Johnson to Hyderabad in 1784. Returned to Calcutta on 9 June 1785. In December of the same year Mr Macpherson, the then Governor-General, apprehending an alliance among the Peshwa, Nawab Nizam Ali, Tipu Sultan and the French commissioned the Mir to reside at Hyderabad as his agent with a view to obtaining first hand intelligence of the activities in that Court. Permitted to resign in 1789.

² Capital of Hyderabad State.

1788

have remarked that while he was at war with the infidels (the Marathas) the Nizam joined them against the Sultan, but that if he (the Nizam) now entertains friendly feelings towards him he will also do likewise.

Says that none except three persons, namely, Mushirul-Mulk¹, Shamsul-Mulk² and Itisamud-Daulah³, the *Mir Munshi*, is acquainted with the particulars of the secret correspondence of the Nizam with Nana Farnavis⁴, Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia⁵ and other Maratha *sardars*⁶. A letter was received from the Governor of Pondicherry⁷ saying that the Frenchmen who had joined Tipu Sultan had no connection with the French Company and that they had done so without his permission and knowledge. It is learnt that the Nizam has sent Mons. Aumont⁸, a Frenchman, to purchase muskets from Pondicherry. It does not appear that the Nizam wishes to entertain a body of disciplined French troops because the murder of Nawab Nasir Jang⁹, disputes of Mons. Bussy¹⁰ and the capture

¹ Chief Minister of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 14, f.n. 2.

² Title of Togh Jang Abul Fath Khan. For biographical note see *ibid*, p 466, n. 12.

³ Also called Itisamul-Mulk. Was appointed *Mir Munshi* or Principal Secretary to Nawab Nizam Ali Khan in about 1774 and continued to hold that office under his successor (Nawab Sikandar Jah):

⁴ Nana Farnavis, the famous minister of the Peshwa.

⁵ Mahadaji Sindhia, the famous Maratha chief of Gwalior.

⁶ P. chief, leader.

⁷ Principal French Settlement on Coromandel Coast, within South Arcot District, Madras.

⁸ Aumont, Joseph Jean Baptiste was born on 21 April 1731 and was employed in one capacity or another at Hyderabad.—Goudart : *Catalogue des Anciennes Archives*.

⁹ It was at the instigation of Dupleix that Nasir Jang, Nizam of Hyderabad (1748-50), was treacherously assassinated on 5 December 1750.

¹⁰ Bussy, Marquis de, (1718-85). French general. Through his influence, Salabat Jang was made Nizam of Hyderabad in 1751. Bussy secured French ascendancy at Hyderabad and the grant of the Northern Circars. In June 1758, when at the zenith of his power, he was recalled by Lally. He died at Pondicherry in January 1785.—Buckland : *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

1788

of Hyderabad¹ are talked of by every one, and for the same reason he is not willing to entertain even the English troops. Since the Nizam is very keen on the conclusion of the proposed new treaty with the English, the delay in the arrival of a reply² from England is causing him much anxiety. He is uneasy over the question of *sarkar* Guntur.³ (*OR* 36; *TR* 27, p 62, no 42; *AR* 4, p 480).

Jan. 11.

60. From the mother of Muzaffar Jang of Farrukhabad⁴. Is pleased to receive his lordship's letter informing her that a monthly allowance of Rs. 500/- has been granted for her maintenance. Says that the *chabutra*⁵ of the mint, Sahibganj⁶ and Begamganj were included in her *jagir* from the time of late Nawab Ghalib Jang Ahmad Khan⁷ and the income barely sufficed for her expenses. It is hardly possible for her to live only on a sum of Rs. 500 a month which has been fixed for her. Requests his lordship therefore to write to the Vazir asking him to restore the said *chabutra* to the writer and issue an order accordingly to Farrukhabad so that she may pass the rest of her life in peace. (*TR* 27, pp 61-2, no 41; *AR* 4, p 469).

¹ When through the intrigues of the Marathas, Bussy was dismissed from the service of the Nizam, Salabat Jang, he marched straight to Hyderabad where immediately on his arrival he occupied some strong buildings. The reference here is probably to that event.—Brigg's *The Nizam*.

² In a letter of 30 October 1786 Lord Cornwallis had told the Nizam that the authorities in England had directed him (Cornwallis) to postpone consideration of the new points proposed by the Nizam for a fresh treaty with the Company. But the Nizam insisted that the treaty of 1768 which governed their relations had become antiquated and needed revision. At last in 1789 a new engagement was executed.

³ On the death of Basalat Jang in 1782 Guntur lapsed to the English who immediately claimed the reversion but the Nizam under various pretexts eluded compliance. It was finally ceded on 18 Sep. 1788.

⁴ Town and district in United Provinces.

⁵ H. A raised bank or terrace, custom house, a market place.

⁶ Village in *pargana* Shamsabad West, *tahsil* Kaimganj, District Farrukhabad.

⁷ Nawab of Farrukhabad (1750-71 A. D).

1788

Jan. 12. 61. From Bhao Bakhshi¹. Informs him that Rao Balaji Gobind², *Sardar* of Kalpi³, is going on a pilgrimage to Allahabad, Benares and Gaya⁴. Says that during Mr Hastings' regime he procured a *parwana*⁵ exempting him from duties but for some reasons he could not then proceed on pilgrimage. Now he is anxious to perform it, and desires to procure exemption for a greater number of pilgrims than was granted to him on the previous occasion. A copy of the *dastak*⁶ granted by Mr Hastings and that of the writer's request for exemption addressed to the Resident at Gaya are enclosed for Governor-General's perusal. Further particulars will be communicated to him by Mr Ives⁷ and Bhagwant Rao.

Enclosures. (1) Copy of the *dastak* granted under the seal of Mr Hastings to Balaji Rao Gobind, *Sardar* of Kalpi, for his pilgrimage to Allahabad, Benares and Gaya in which the *rahdars*⁸, *guzarbans*⁹ and others on the way are directed to give free passage to him and to his companions.

(2). Copy of his request for exemption in favour of Balaji Rao Gobind addressed to the Resident at Gaya. (OR 37-9 ; TR 27, p 67, no 43 ; AR 4, p 462).

Jan. 12. 62. From Balaji Rao Gobind, *Sardar* of Kalpi. Says that he is desirous of proceeding to Gaya, Allahabad and Benares on a pilgrimage. On this subject Bhao Bakhshi has written to the Governor-General, requesting exemption.

¹ Sadasheo Rao Malhar, minister of Mahadaji Sindhia. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 5, f.n. 15.

² Rao Balaji Gobind, *Sardar* of Kalpi, was the Peshwa's representative who ruled on his behalf over a considerable portion of Bundelkhand.—Wills, C. U. : *British relations with the Nagpur State in the 18th century*.

³ Historic town in Jalaun District, United Provinces.

⁴ Town and District in Bihar, famous as a place of pilgrimage for the Hindus and the Buddhists from ancient times.

⁵ P. Order, letter from a man in power to a dependent.

⁶ P. Passport, permit, license.

⁷ Edward Otto Ives, Resident at Lucknow. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 370, f. n. 2.

⁸ *Rahdar*, P. one who has charge of the public roads ; collector of tolls or transit duties.

⁹ *Guzarban*, P. an officer appointed to take tolls both on the high-roads and at ferries.

1788

for him from the pilgrim tax. Hopes the latter will comply with the request so that he may set out immediately for the purpose. (*OR* 40 ; *TR* 27, p 69, no 44 ; *AR* 4, p 462).

Jan. 12. 63. From Beniram Pandit. Informs him that Bhawani Pandit¹, *Bakhshi*² of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla's forces has set out from Nagpur³ to perform his pilgrimage of Allahabad, Benares and Gaya. Says that Hari Bhadar Pandit will deliver to him the Maharaja's *kharita*⁴ on this subject and will represent full particulars to him. Requests him to direct Mr Law⁵, Mr Duncan and Mr Ives to allow him a free passage and to show him every respect worthy of his high rank. (*OR* 42; *TR* 27, p 70, no 46 ; *AR* 4, p 461).

Jan. 12. 64. From Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Says that his *Diwan*, Bhawani Pandit, has set out with his companions in order to perform the pilgrimage of Benares, Gaya, and Allahabad. Requests the Governor-General to write to the officers of those places to afford him all facilities and not to demand any duties from him. (*OR* 41 ; *TR* 27, p 69, no 45 ; *AR* 4. p 480)

Jan. 12. 65. From Sardat Ali Khan, brother of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Complimentary. (*OR* 43 *TR* 27, p 71, no 47 ; *AR* 4, p. 489).

Jan. 14 66. *Nawab Asafud-Daulah to Mr Ives*⁶. Says that duties have been fixed on several articles by Lord Cornwallis as given below :—

¹ He was the *Bakhshi* of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla and was employed chiefly in the army. On the death of Devakar Pandit he was made *Diwan* in which office he was continued by Raghuji Bhonsla.

² P. paymaster (in Muhammadan armies); general, Commander-in-Chief (the office of paymaster being combined with that of general); an officer who kept an account of all disbursements connected with military tenures.

³ Capital of the Central Provinces, also of the former Bhonslas.

⁴ A. receptacle, small silk bag in which letters for great men are enclosed.

⁵ Thomas Law, Collector of Gaya (1784-8 A. D.). For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 27, f. n 3.

⁶ Enclosure from Mr Ives.

1788

Cotton coming from Jalaun¹, Haidarnagar², Amraoti³ and Nagpur or any of the parts of the Deccan⁴ and passing through the dominions of Nawab Vazir, to those of the Company, shall pay *rahdari* duties⁵ of five per cent in his country (except in Katehr⁶) on the fixed valuation of six rupees per maund of ninety-six *sicca*⁷ weight to the seer. The Bengal salt exported from the Company's dominions to his shall pay an import duty of five per cent to his officers (except in Katehr) on the valuation specified in the *parwana* granted under the seal of the Company's Custom House. Besides this, the traders shall pay the *pachotra*⁸ duties in the markets and towns according to the quantity sold. Districts of Katehr are exempted from this duty. Says that these duties will be collected from January 20, 1788. Asks him to inform the Governor-General accordingly. (OR 44 ; TR 27, p 72, no 48 ; AR 4, p 483).

Jan. 14. 67. Memo. In compliance with the orders of the Governor-General in Council the Deputy Persian Translator (Mr G. F. Cherry) sent for Babu Sarabjit Singh and asked him to explain the discrepancy that appeared in the figures of the charges (of misappropriation) brought by him against

¹ Town and District in Allahabad Division. Formerly Jalaun was a considerable mart for inland traffic, especially of cotton which was transported overland to Cawnpore and thence to Mirzapur by water.

² Name given by Haidar Ali to Bednore *i. e.*, Nagar town in Shimoga District, Mysore.

³ Town and District in Berar, thirty-four miles south-east from Ellichpur. A considerable quantity of cotton, of a good length and staple, was formerly transported from there to Bengal, being a distance of more than 500 miles *via* Mirzapur on the Ganges.

⁴ Deccan, this name, a corruption of the Sanskrit *dakshina*—'southern', includes, in its widest sense, the whole of India south of the Narbada river, or, which is nearly the same thing, south of the Vindhya mountains. In its narrower sense it has much the same meaning as Maharashtra, or the country where the Marathi language is spoken, if the below-Ghat tract be omitted.—*Imperial Gazetteer of India*, Vol. XI.

⁵ Import or transit duties.

⁶ Old name of Rohilkhand.

⁷ P. name of a weight (equal, in Bengal, to 7 cwt and 11·5511 grains) ; stamped coin, specially the designation of silver currency of Kings of Delhi adopted by the Indian princes and eventually by the East India Company.

⁸ H. a duty of 5% on the value of goods in transit ; a custom or toll house for inland traffic.

Mr Grant (Account No 1) and those of the comparative adjusted accounts¹ (Account No 2) submitted by the Babu on 7 January 1788. The questions together with the answers of the Babu are given below :—

1. In Account No 1, the amount of <i>bharai</i> for 1193 <i>Fasli</i> stands as	. . .	Rs. 42,822-13½
In Account No 2.	. . .	Rs. 32,697-1¼
Difference	. . .	Rs. 10,125-12¼

Explanation given by the Babu.—The sum of Rs. 42,822-13½ includes the amount of Rs. 10,125-12¼ received on account of *bharai* by Mr Fowke² who was Resident at Benares for 6 months in 1193 *Fasli*. This was made clear in the accounts submitted by the Babu on 1 February 1787.

2. In Account No 1 the sum on account of <i>nizdat</i> and <i>bardasht</i> stands as	. . .	Rs. 51,494-0
In Account No 2.	. . .	Rs. 54,707-8
Difference	. . .	Rs. 3,213-8
Again in Account No 1 the sum on account of <i>farmaishat</i> is given as		Rs. 36,976-8
In Account No 2.	. . .	Rs. 33,763-0
Difference		Rs. 3,213-8

Explanation.—The difference under these two heads is the same and arises from the amount of *bardasht* having been in one account included in the *nizdat* and in the other in the *farmaishat*.

3. In Account No 1 there is no entry under the head *nazrana-i-kachahri*. In Account No 2 it is stated to be Rs. 1,00,000. In the Account delivered by Sarabjit Singh on 1 February 1787 the amount is given as Rs. 1,01,505.

¹ *Vide* no 40 above.

² Francis Fowke, Resident at Benares (1778-85). For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 27, f.n. 2.

Explanation.—The difference in the two latter figures is due to the fact that when the accounts were settled at Benares the sum of Rs. 1,505 was acknowledged to be due to the Raja (by Mr Graham) but it appears not to have been paid. So, in the account submitted separately by the Raja the amount has already been shown as unrealised.

4. In Account No 1 the following entries appear for 1194 *Fasli* :

<i>Khilats</i> , etc.	. . . . .	Rs. 10,968-8
Treasury orders	. . . . .	Rs. 20,000-0
		<hr/>
		Rs. 30,968-8

In Account No 2 the corresponding entry is :

From the revenue of the <i>sadr</i>	. . . . .	Rs. 31,243-8
		<hr/>
Difference		Rs. 275-0

Explanation.—The difference appears to have arisen from the fact that the sum of Rs. 275 on account of *bardasht* was not included in Account No 1 (through oversight).

5. In account No 1 there is no entry under the head *farmaishat*. In Account No 2 a sum of Rs. 13,000 is entered.

Explanation.—This amount is correct as previously stated in the accounts submitted on 15 June 1787.

The Deputy Persian Translator asked the Babu whether the sums given in the account delivered by him on 7 January 1788 (as compared and adjusted with the Raja's account) were those which he charges Mr Grant with having appropriated. The Babu replied in the affirmative. (*TR* 27, pp 73-9, no 49; *AR* 4, p 490).

Jan. 14. 68. To the King. Is honoured to receive His Majesty's *shuqqa*¹ saying that the Prince, Jahandar Shah, reached

¹ A. royal letter.

1788

there (Delhi) some time ago, but much to his disappointment, the Prince has not yet received the bill of one lakh of rupees, being the advance payment of the allowance fixed by the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah) for him (the Prince), though it was settled that the amount would be paid as soon as the Prince arrived at the Court of Delhi. Says in reply that the bill must have been delivered to the Prince by now through Mr Edward Otto Ives, Resident at Lucknow. Hopes to be honoured with royal letters every now and then (*CI* 20, p 6, no 7 ; *AR* 4, p 537, no 23).

Jan. 14. 69. To Prince Jahandar Shah. Is delighted to receive his *shuqqa* and to know that the Prince has reached Delhi. It is a piece of happy news that the King (Shah Alam) has invested him with *khilat* and entrusted him with the sole direction of the royal affairs. Hopes to receive his *shuqqas* frequently. (*CI* 20, pp 6-7, no 8 ; *AR* 4, p 546, no 24).

Jan. 15. 70. From Nawab Mubaraku'd-Daulah. Sends Mir Kamalu'd-Din Husain Khan, a friend of his father, as his *vakil* with the Governor-General. (*OR* 45 ; *TR* 27, p 79, no 50 ; *AR* 4, p 479).

Jan. 15. 71. From Babbu Begam¹. Complimentary. (*OR* 46 ; *TR* 27, p 80, no 51 ; *AR* 4, p 462).

Jan. 15. 72. From Rai Mahanand². Says that while his lordship was at Berhampore³ he was pleased to grant permission to the writer to wait upon him at Calcutta after five days. Regrets his inability to proceed now as the Maharaja (Guru Das⁴) is ill. Hopes to call on him in the month of *Magh*⁵ (February 1788). (*OR* 47 ; *TR* 27, p 81, no 52 ; *AR* 4, p 488).

¹ Mother of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah.

² Nephew (sister's son) of Raja Guru Das.

³ Town in Murshidabad District, Bengal.

⁴ Raja Guru Das, the only son of the famous Raja Nanda Kumar, was the *Diwan* of Nawab Mubaraku'd-Daulah from 1772 to 1775 and again from 1778 to 1779. He died in 1199 B. S. (1792-3).—Walsh : *History of Murshidabad*.

⁵ H. 10th Hindu solar month corresponding to January-February.

1788

- Jan. 15.* 73. From Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Is pleased to learn that the appointment of Mirza Khalil¹ to the office of the *Diwan* in the place of Raja Sundar Singh² has been approved by his lordship. (*OR* 48 ; *TR* 27, p 82, no 53 ; *AR* 4, p 478).
- Jan. 15.* 74. From Munni Begam³. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 49 ; *TR* 27, p 83, no 54 ; *AR* 4, p 481).
- Jan. 15.* 75. Major Charles Harris White⁴ to Maharaja Ran Bahadur⁵. Says that the *vakil* of Maharaja Ranjit Mal⁶ has written to the Governor-General that six crores of rupees belonging to him are lying buried on the confines of addressee's country but no one knows the exact spot where they are. Consequently his lordship has deputed him to carry on a search for the money. Says he would proceed with two other gentlemen to the spot and after digging up the money he would divide it into three parts. One part would go to the *vakil* of the Maharaja, another to the addressee and the third to the Company. Asks him to depute one of his own men to guide him through the passes. Requests that he will send a speedy answer through his own messenger. (*OR* 50 ; *TR* 27, p 84, no 55 ; *AR* 4, p 484).

¹ Mirza Khalilullah Khan was the son of Mirza Sultan Daud. Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah gave his eldest daughter in marriage to him and appointed him his *Diwan* in December 1787 which office he held till 1794, when he was dismissed by Nawab Nasirul-Mulk (Babar Ali Khan), son and successor of Mubarakud-Daulah.

² *Diwan* of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 1, f. n. 5.

³ Step-mother and some time regent of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 5, f.n. 11.

⁴ Charles Harris White joined Bengal Army as cadet in 1768. Ensign 24 January 1769. Lieutenant 23 May 1770. Captain 18 Sep. 1778. Major 6 February 1784. Lt.-Col. 1 March 1794. Died 30 June 1798 at Barrackpore. Dodwell & Miles : *Bengal Army List*.

⁵ Raja of Nepal. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 363, f.n. 2. Copy of this letter was delivered at Calcutta by the Raja's *vakil*.

⁶ Ranjit Mal was the Raja of Bhatgaon in Nepal who surrendered himself and his country to Prithvi Narayan Gurkha in 1768 and retired to Benares where he died soon after.

1788

Jan. 15. 76. From the Zamindar of Baikunthpur¹. In the time Mr Hastings Jalpesh², Chanpadanga and other villages which are his hereditary property were claimed by the Raja of Bhutan³ but after a thorough investigation it was established that their ownership vested in the writer. Accordingly the Dinajpur Council passed a decree in his favour and demarcated the boundary of his zamindari. Has submitted a copy of this decree to the Supreme Council, the original is still in his possession. But the Raja has not yet relinquished possession of the above-mentioned places. This is neither just nor fair. Requests therefore an order to re-establish him in his ancestral property. Assures him that he will pay the revenue to the Company. It was to save himself from the treachery of these Bhutias that he had placed himself under the protection of the Company. (*OR 51*).

Jan. 15. 77. To the Raja of Pegu (Burma). Has received his letter and the presents. Assures him of his friendship and hopes that trade relations between the two states will continue as usual. Sends a few presents. (*CI 20, pp 7-8, no 9; AR 4, p 547, no 25*).

Jan. 15. 78. To Haidar Beg Khan. Is delighted to receive his three letters intimating that the instalment of the subsidy for this year will soon be paid to the Company and that strict regularity in payment will be observed in future. Has also learnt from his letters that the amount of the *peshkash*⁴ has been paid to the Prince (Jahandar Shah). Hopes that the Khan will further strengthen the friendship subsisting between the Company and the Nawab

¹ Estate in Rangpur District, Eastern Bengal. The Zamindars of Baikunthpur were entitled Raikat and were originally the hereditary prime ministers of Cooch Behar. They were descended from Sisu Singh, brother of the founder of the reigning dynasty of Cooch Behar.

² Village with temple in Jalpaiguri District. Jalpeshwar, according to the Persian text.

³ State in Eastern Himalayas.

⁴ This was an allowance of 4 lakhs annually which Nawab Asafud-Daulah had fixed for the Prince at the request of Warren Hastings.

1788

Vazir (Asafud-Daulah) and observe all the terms of their agreement¹. (*CI* 20, pp 8-9, no 10A; *AR* 4, p 534, no 26).

Jan. 16. 79. From Jagat Seth.² Congratulates him on the occasion of New Year's day. (*OR* 52; *TR* 27, p 86, no 56; *AR* 4, p 473).

Jan. 16. 80. From Raja Pratap Singh.³ Is glad to receive his friendly letter. Desires to be acquainted with the particulars of his lordship's interview with the Vazir at Lucknow. Says that he must have heard about the insolence of Ghulam Qadir Khan in the Royal presence. In accordance with the orders of His Majesty he has directed Maharaja Chokhraj and Bakhshi Mitha Lal to go to the presence with a body of Kachwaha⁴ and Rathor⁴ troops. For further particulars refers him to Rai Ram Singh.⁵ (*OR* 53; *TR* 27, p 86, no 57; *AR* 4, p 473).

Jan. 16. 81. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Benares. Complimentary. (*OR* 54; *AR* 27, p 87, no 58; *AR* 4, p 458).

Jan. 16. 82. From Raja Damodar Singh.⁶ Says that the Company after taking the zamindari of *pargana* Bishnupur⁷ from him had divided it into two equal parts and made over one half to him and the other half to Raja Chaitan

¹ The reference is to the treaty of 1787 concluded between the English and Nawab Asafud-Daulah.

² Title of Harak Chand. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 230, f.n. 1.

³ Ruler of Jaipur State in Rajputana (1778-1803 A. D.).

⁴ A Rajput clan.

⁵ *Vakil* of the Raja of Jaipur.

⁶ Damodar Singh was the cousin of Chaitan Singh, Raja of Bishnupur. He contended with Chaitan Singh for the *raj* of Bishnupur. For details of the dispute between them, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 267, f.n. 1.

⁷ Ancient zamindari in Bankura District, Bengal. It was little affected by the Muhammadan conquest but gradually fell into decay as the Burdwan *raj* rose to power. The Marathas completed its ruin. It is an impoverished zamindari in the present day. It was ceded to the British with the rest of the Burdwan *chakla* in 1760—*Bankura District Gazetteer*.

1788

Singh¹. Accordingly the two families conducted the management for ten years. In 1187 Bengali (1780-1 A. D.) his partner, Raja Chaitan Singh, making a false representation deprived him of his share. On becoming aware of it the writer represented the matter to the Governor-General (Warren Hastings) and the members of the Council who after investigation, were pleased to order that he should receive his allowance as before. The Governor-General had further promised that after his return from the tour of Hindustan he would restore all his rights to him. But on his return he hastily left for Europe. Has not received his share for the last seven years and his allowance for the last two years. Requests that his Zamindari as well as his allowance may be restored to him. (OR 55 ; TR 27, p 88, no 59 ; AR 4, p 467).

Jan. 16. 83. From the *vakil* of Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Says that the shopkeepers of *mauza*² Mubarak Ganj, the property of his constituent, went to another *ganj*³, of their own accord. But due to some disagreement there, they returned to the places which they formerly held in Mubarak Ganj. The *amala* of the *ganjs* of *Khas Taluk*⁴ one day sent a number of people to force them away. A dispute ensued and many persons were wounded and the *gumashta* of Mubarak Ganj was confined for a day and night. Requests that the offenders may be punished and orders may be sent to Mr Pott⁵ to warn the miscreants against a repetition of such offence. (OR 56 ; TR 27, p 90, no 60 ; AR 4, p 462).

Jan. 16. 84. From Faizullah Khan. Professes friendship for his lordship. Has sent his reply to his two letters through

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 267, f.n. 1.

² A. village.

³ H. market, a mart, in Bengal and Hindustan a village or town which is an emporium for grain and other necessities of life.

⁴ H. a taluk or certain district under the immediate management of the state.

⁵ R. P. Pott, Resident at Murshidabad. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 20, f.n. 3.

1788

Mr Ives. Is greatly delighted to learn from his son, Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan,¹ the particulars of his lordship's kindness and attention shown to him. His son is more thankful than can be expressed. Refers him to Moti Lal² for further particulars. (*OR* 57 ; *TR* 27, p 91, no 61 ; *AR* 4, p 468).

Jan. 16. 85. From Faizullah Khan. Complimentary. (*OR* 58 ; *TR* 27, p 93, no 62 ; *AR* 4, p 468).

Jan. 16. 86. To Haidar Beg Khan. Is surprised that the ratification of the proposed commercial agreement³ has been so much delayed. During frequent conversations with the addressee when the Governor-General was at Lucknow it had been observed that such an agreement was an urgent necessity in order to safeguard commercial interests of the Nawab Vazir's (Asafud-Daulah's) dominion and of the Company as well. Hopes that his proposals which are based on mutual advantages will be accepted by the Nawab Vazir without hesitation. (*CI* 20, pp 9-10, no 10B ; *AR* 4, p 534, no 27).

Jan. 18. 87. From Haidar Beg Khan. Is sorry to learn that his lordship is uneasy at the delay which has taken place in the payment of the subsidy. Assures him that the Company's money shall be paid as soon as possible. (*OR* 59 ; *TR* 27, p 94, no 63 ; *AR* 4, p 473).

Jan. 18. 88. To Haidar Beg Khan. Is glad to learn from the letters of Mr Ives that the (proposed commercial) agreement which tends to bring unlimited advantages to the Vazir's country as well as to the Company is to be ratified soon (by the Vazir). Advises him to appoint an honest and well qualified person to collect the duties in order to

¹ Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan succeeded his father to the *masnad* of Rampur State in 1793, but after a few days he was replaced by his brother, Nawab Ghulam Muhammad Khan, and was imprisoned in the fortress of Dungarpur. He was subsequently shot dead in his sleep.—*Rampur State Gazetteer*.

² *Vakil* of Nawab Faizullah Khan.

³ Ratified at Fort William, 25 July 1788—C. U. Aitchison : *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, 5th edition, Vol. II, pp 120-4.

1788

ensure full benefit of the scheme. (*CI* 20, p 10, no 11; *AR* 4, p. 534, no. 28).

- Jan. 18. 89. *Dastak* granted to Gosain Brahmchari, who is going from Balasore¹ to Benares and has with him articles of food and clothing. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars*² and *mustahfizans*³ on the way are directed not to molest him for tolls and duties. (*CI* 20, p 199, no 186).
- Jan. 19. 90. *Bhao Bakhshi* to *Bhagwant Rao*.⁴ To the same effect as no. 61 above. (*OR* 60; *TR* 27, p 95, no 64; *AR* 4, p 462).
- Jan. 19. 91. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that he entertains a sincere friendship for the English and has no other connection with the French, the Dutch and the Danes, except that of maintaining the ancient custom and established rules. Considers it advisable to keep up the old forms. (*OR* 61; *TR* 27, p 96, no 65; *AR* 4, p 479).
- Jan. 19. 92. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter asking him to direct Khan Jahan Khan to make an apology to Mr Titsingh for using improper language in his letter to the latter. Says that having received petitions from Muhammad Baqir and Muhammad Jafar, sons of the deceased Muhammad Kazim Khan, respecting the posting of peons at their house by the Dutch Chief at the false representation of Haji Mahdi, he wrote to the Khan that as the house was not within the boundary of Chinsura⁵, the Dutch had no right to place guards at the house of Mir Muhammad Kazim deceased. It was not intended that the Khan should create disagreements between himself and Mr Titsingh and thus incur his displeasure. Has, however, in compliance with his lordship's desire, written to the

¹ Town and district in Orissa.

² H. a watchman, guard, sentinel, a village watchman.

³ A. guard, watchman, protector.

⁴ *Vakil* of Bhao Bakhshi and Sindhia. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 29, f.n. 1.

⁵ Town in Hooghly District, Bengal, old Dutch Settlement.

1788

Khan now to go to Mr Titsingh and make an apology to him for his unbecoming conduct. (OR 62; TR 27, p 97, no 66; AR 4, p 479).

Jan. 19. 93. *Mubarakud-Daulah to Khan Jahan Khan, Faujdar of Hooghly.* Has learnt that the Dutch Chief has posted peons at the house of Mir Muhammad Kazim deceased and has thus caused inconvenience to his sons. The house of the deceased is outside the jurisdiction of the Dutch settlement at Chinsura, why should the said Chief post his peons there? Dated 20 *Rabi* I 1202 A. H. = 30 December 1787. (OR 63; TR 27, p 99, no 66; AR 4, p 479).

Jan. 19. 94. *Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to Khan Jahan Khan.* To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 64; TR 27, p 99, no 66; AR 4, p 479).

Jan. 19. 95. From Khan Jahan Khan. Mirza Muhammad Jafar, the eldest son of Mirza Muhammad Kazim Khan, deceased, has brought a *parwana* from Murshidabad addressed to the writer by Nawab Firoz Jang (Mubarakud-Daulah) on the subject of the high-handed action taken by the Dutch Chief. A copy of it is enclosed and the orders of the Governor-General and Council are solicited in the matter. (OR 66).

Jan. 19. 96. *Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to Khan Jahan Khan.* Has come to learn that the addressee has acted improperly towards Mr Titsingh in connection with the complaint of late Muhammad Kazim Khan's sons and has thus incurred his displeasure. He is, therefore, asked to go to that gentleman and make an apology to him in order to remove his displeasure and to take care that in future his letters to him are couched in a proper language. (OR 65; TR 27, p 99, no 66; AR 4, p 479).

Jan. 19. 97. *Faizullah Khan to Moti Lal, his wakil at Calcutta.* Has received his 'arzi¹ intimating his arrival at Calcutta. Desires him to attend the durbar of the Governor-General.

¹ P. petition.

and observe all the customs prevalent there. Asks him to represent to the Governor-General all the particulars about which he has been instructed. Says that none of his servants has joined Prince Mirza Jawan Bakht. Many sepoys from Lucknow have gone across the Ganges¹ where they have been enlisted in the service of the Prince. Ismail Beg Khan², Ghulam Qadir Khan, Mirza Mangli known as Sa'adat Ali Khan, Mirza Jangli known as Shahamat Ali Khan³ and others went from Lucknow across the Ganges and no one checked them at the *ghats* watched by the Nawab Vazir's men. It is about six years since Ghulam Qadir Khan having quarrelled with his father, Zabitah Khan,⁴ came to Rampur but he was expelled from there without being offered even a cup of water. Since that day he has been a bitter enemy of the writer. Desires him to lay these particulars before his lordship and communicate his sentiments to the writer without delay. (*OR* 67; *TR* 27, p 100, no 67; *AR* 4, p 467).

Jan. 20. 98. From Ghulam Qadir Khan. Is delighted to receive his letter. Has learnt that his lordship proposes to station troops in the west⁵. Says that this is highly proper and advisable. Assures his lordship that he will be pleased to provide any help which may be desired of him by the Company's officers in this quarter. (*OR* 68; *TR* 27, p 103, no 68; *AR* 4, p 471).

¹ The great sacred river of Northern India which rises in the Tehri State and falls into the Bay of Bengal.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 394, *f.n.* 1.

³ Shahamat Ali Khan, *alias* Mirza Jangli, son of Nawab Shujaud-Daulah.

⁴ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 16, *f.n.* 4.

⁵ 'In the west' is a common expression for 'upcountry'. Ghulam Qadir's successes in the Doab and the activities of the Sikhs were viewed with alarm by the Nawab Vazir and so a detachment from the Fatehgarh brigade was stationed further up the river Ganges. Intimation of this was given to Ghulam Qadir by Lord Cornwallis in his letter dated 14 November 1787 (*Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 448, no. 1840) and the present letter is a reply to that.

1788

- Jan. 20. 99. From Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia. The circumstances attending the disputes at the Court of Delhi and the deplorable situation of the King must have been made known to his lordship. Says that these disturbances are due to his absence from the royal court. When in the midst of this crisis His Majesty summoned him to the presence he did not consider it prudent to take any action precipitately as he apprehended that the rebels, growing desperate, might harm the King. Has fully communicated these particulars to Major Palmer who will inform his lordship thereof. Now in order to show his allegiance to His Majesty he has determined to punish the rebels and has accordingly sent for troops from the Deccan. (OR 69 ; TR 27, pp 104-7, no 69 ; AR 4, p 489).
- Jan. 22. 100. To Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Is delighted to receive his letter asking for exemption from duties and other facilities for Bhawani Pandit during his pilgrimage to Gaya, Benares and Allahabad. Has accordingly written to Mr Law, Collector at Gaya, on the subject. For further particulars refers him to Beniram Pandit. (CI 20, p 11, no 12 ; AR 4, p 540, no 29).
- Jan. 22. 101. To Beniram Pandit and Bishambhar Pandit. Says that Hari Bhadar Pandit has now arrived with a *kharita* of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. As desired by the Maharaja, exemption from duties at Gaya will be granted to Bhawani Pandit, *Bakhshi* of the Maharaja's troops, and his companions. But Bhawani Pandit should be instructed to send a list of his followers to the Collector at Gaya. It is desirable that in future all letters from the Maharaja asking for such exemptions should be accompanied with a list giving the number and other particulars of the pilgrims. (CI 20, pp 11-12, no 13 ; AR 4, p 525, no 30).
- Jan. 22. 102. To Bhao Bakhshi. Has received his letter asking for exemption from duties for Rao Balaji Gobind and his companions who are going on a pilgrimage to Allahabad,

1788

Benares and Gaya. Says that exemption will be granted. For particulars refers him to Mr. Ives, Resident at Lucknow. (*CI* 20, pp 12-13, no 14 ; *AR* 4, p 526, no 31).

Jan. 22. 103. To Balaji Gobind, *Sardar* of Kalpi and Jhansi¹. Has received his letter informing him of his pilgrimage. For particulars relating to the grant of *dastaks* refers him to Mr Ives. (*CI* 20, p 13, no 15 ; *AR* 4, p 526, no 32).

Jan. 22. 104. *Dastak* granted to Rao Balaji Gobind, *Sardar* of Kalpi, who is going with his companions and servants on a pilgrimage to Allahabad, Benares and Gaya. The *rah-dars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to give them free passage. (*CI* 20, p 200, no 188).

Jan. 22. 105. To Babu Manohar Das Sahu². Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 199, no 187).

Jan. 23. 106. From Raja Gobind Ram, *vakil* of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Complimentary. (*OR* 70 ; *TR* 27, pp 107-8, no 70 ; *AR* 4, p 471).

Jan. 23. 107. From Intizamud-Daulah Saiyid Ali Khan Nusrat Jang, Nawab of Dacca³. Says that in May 1787 when he returned from Calcutta to Jahangirnagar⁴, he was informed by Mr Day⁵ that the sum of Rs. 537 and some annas out of his monthly allowance had been reduced by the Board of Revenue. The writer appealed to his lordship against

¹ Town and district in the United Provinces.

² Son of Gopal Das Sahu, banker. He started an insurance agency at Calcutta and was present at the siege of Seringapatam while serving as a Commissariat Contractor. He obtained a sword belonging to Tipu Sultan, afterwards given by his descendants to Maharaja Jang Bahadur of Nepal, and a dagger still in the possession of the family. He died at Benares, leaving a great deal of property in Calcutta and elsewhere, notably the market called Bara Bazar in Calcutta, a *maiden* with a tank in the centre opposite the Indian Museum, a tank at Sitakund, and a *dharmasala* at Gomati.—*Benares District Gazetteer*.

³ Saiyid Ali Khan, Nawab of Dacca (1785-1822 A. D.).

⁴ Jahangirnagar, old name of Dacca, city in Eastern Bengal.

⁵ Mathew Day was appointed assistant of the factory at Dacca in February 1772. He became Chief of the Factory and subsequently Collector of Dacca which post he held till December 1789 when he embarked on the *Busbridge* for England.

1788

this order when the latter had arrived at Jangipur¹ on his way to Cawnpore². But the amount has not yet been restored to him. Has since learnt that the above order was passed on 1 March 1786 but it was not communicated to Mr Day at the time for some reason or other. Says that after the death of his brother³ he was granted a *sanad*⁴ on 10 March 1786 appointing him to the *Nizamat*⁵ on the old salary. He was also granted a *khil'at* by Sir John Macpherson⁶ who publicly declared that the office of the *Nazim*⁷ of Dacca would always remain in the family of Jasarat Khan⁸ on the old fixed allowance. Prays therefore that the amount which has been reduced from his allowance may be renewed to him as it is meant for the servants employed under him. (OR 71; TR 27, pp 108-13, no 71; AR 4, p 501).

Jan. 23. 108. From Lutfun-Nisa Begam⁹, widow of Nawab

¹ Also known as Jahangirpur, a town in Murshidabad District, Bengal. During the early days of British rule it was an important centre of the silk trade and the site of a commercial residency.—*Murshidabad District Gazetteer*.

² Town and district in the United Provinces.

³ Saiyid Muhammad Khan, Nawab of Dacca (1778-85 A. D.).

⁴ A. diploma, patent or deed of grant by the government, of office, privilege or right.

⁵ A. office of the *Nazim* or Governor; always denoting the government of the Nawab of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa at Murshidabad. The Nawabs of Bengal had a deputy at Dacca, Murshidabad and Bihar called the *Naib Nazim*.

⁶ Sir John Macpherson, (1745-1821), son of Rev. John Macpherson born 1745; educated at King's College, Aberdeen and Edinburgh University; went to India, 1767, as the purser of a ship; sent to England on a secret mission by Muhammad Ali, Nawab of the Carnatic; went to Madras as a writer, in 1770; dismissed from service by Lord Pigot, Governor of Madras, in 1777; M. P. for Cricklade, 1779-82; reinstated by the Court of Directors; Member of the Supreme Council in India, 1781-5 and 1786-7; Governor-General from February, 1785 to September 1786; made a Baronet, 1786; M. P. for Horsham, 1796-1802; died January 12, 1821.—Buckland: *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

⁷ A. administrator. Under Mughal rule, the chief officer empowered to decide criminal cases; a title of the Nawabs of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

⁸ Jasarat Khan Jasarat Jang, *Naib Nazim* of Dacca till 1778.

⁹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 260, f.n. 1.

1788

Sirajud-Daulah¹. Some time ago she had communicated to his lordship the circumstances regarding the assassination of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah, the plundering of his house, her own distressed condition, her removal to Jahangirnagar (Dacca) by Mir Jafar Ali Khan² and the grant of an annual allowance of Rs. 600 for her. She had also represented that this allowance was hardly sufficient for her as out of the four grand-daughters of the late Nawab two were yet to be married, and most of the relations, maids and servants of her husband were still dependent on her. But she has received no reply to her representations. Says that when Mr Hastings returned to Calcutta from Hindustan she represented her difficulties to him. At that time he had promised that he would redress her grievances. But nothing has yet been done. Solicits therefore that her pension may be increased to enable her and her dependants to pass their days in comfort.

Further a house at Patna which formerly belonged to Nawab Haibat Jang³ is being used by the Collector of Government Customs as his office and another house formerly owned by Nawab Shahamat Jang⁴ in the same place has been turned into a *gola*⁵ for opium. If a monthly rent is paid to her for those houses it will be a great help to her. (*OR* 72; *TR* 27, pp 113-15, no 72; *AR* 4, p 477).

Jan. 23. 109. From Chhatar Singh, Rana of Gohad⁶. Says that he was overjoyed to hear about the arrival of his lordship as the Governor-General at Calcutta but unfortunately he could not send him congratulations at that time as

¹ Sirajud-Daulah, Nawab of Bengal (1756-7 A. D.).

² Nawab of Bengal, (1757-60; 1763-4 A. D.).

³ Zainud-Din Ahmad Khan, Haibat Jang, father of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah and son-in-law of Ali Vardi Khan.

⁴ Another son-in-law of Ali Vardi Khan. Died from an attack of dropsy on 17 December 1755.—Datta: *Alivardi and his Times*, p. 167.

⁵ H. a store house for grain, opium and salt.

⁶ Town in Gwalior State, Central India.

1788

he happened to be involved in serious distresses. It is a pity that he should suffer so much although he has patrons like Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia and the Governor-General. Prays that he may be restored to liberty¹. (*OR* 73; *TR* 27, p 115, no 73; *AR* 4, p 472).

Jan. 23. 110. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is glad to receive his lordship's letter through Mr Ives. Desires to have an interview with him. Requests him to write letters frequently. (*OR* 74; *TR* 27, p 117, no 74; *AR* 4, p 469).

Jan. 23. 111. From Maulavi Qutbu'd-Din². Says that considerations have always been shown to him by his lordship as well as by his predecessors, Mr Hastings and Mr Macpherson, in compliance with the *shuqqas* of His Majesty but Mr Kinloch³ behaves shabbily with him. Whenever he goes to him in order to explain cases pending in the *Nizamat Adalat*⁴ that gentleman gives no attention to him. Requests his lordship therefore to ask Mr Kinloch to afford assistance to him in all matters. (*OR* 75; *TR* 27, p 118, no 75; *AR* 4, p 466).

Jan. 23. 112. From Prince Jahandar Shah. Says that he has paid his respects to His Majesty and has been vested by him with full control over all his affairs. After taking leave of His Majesty he proceeded to Akbarabad⁵ in order to take possession of it and to restore order there. At this time assistance in money and troops from his lordship is necessary. Asks therefore that four battalions may as formerly be stationed with him. If this is done the whole of the country through God's grace will come into his

¹ In 1784 Mahadaji Sindhia attacked and captured the fort of Gohad. The Rana fled across the Chambal to Karauli. He was pursued, captured and kept a prisoner in the fort of Gwalior.

² Maulavi Qutbud-Din was the *Darogha* of the *Faujdari Adalat* at Darbhanga since 1783 and at Burdwan since 1787.

³ J. Kinloch, Collector of Burdwan (1788).

⁴ P. the Chief Criminal Court, or Court of the *Nazim*, established originally at Murshidabad in 1772 but removed to Calcutta in 1790.

⁵ Akbarabad, name given by Emperor Akbar to Agra.

1788

possession. Formerly his lordship refused help because of his engagement with Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia who was at that time actively participating in the politics of Delhi. But no such considerations now stand in the way, Sindhia having retreated to Gwalior¹ after his defeat at the hands of Ismail Beg. A little assistance from him at this stage will regulate all matters. It will be a great service to him if Mr John Bristow² is sent to the presence with the necessary troops. (*OR* 76; *TR* 27, pp 119-21, no 76; *AR* 4, p 486).

Jan. 23. 113. *Dastak* granted to Rai Sheo Lal, brother of Munshi Sukh Lal,³ who is going on leave from Calcutta to Allahabad. He will travel from Calcutta to Murshidabad by boat and from Murshidabad to Allahabad by *behli*⁴. He has with him articles of food and clothing. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to afford him all facilities in his journey. (*CI* 20, p 199, no 185).

Jan. 24. 114. From Saadat Ali Khan. Is glad to receive his lordship's letter. Says that his lordship is well acquainted with the delight the writer takes in hunting and reading English. Requests him therefore to write to the Resident at Benares that agreeable to his wishes he may always have a huntsman and an English instructor with him and that no one may hinder their attendance on him. Hopes to receive letters frequently. (*OR* 77; *TR* 27, p 121, no 77; *AR* 4, p 489).

Jan. 24. 115. To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his several *arzis*. The difficulties which have been experienced by the Mir in the performance of his duties are fully realised. Appreciates his services and asks him to stay

¹ Gwalior, State in Central India.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, pp 78-9, f.n. 1.

³ *Vakil* of Lala Champat Ray.

⁴ H. a small two-wheeled vehicle without spring, drawn by two oxen.

1788

on at Hyderabad at least for two or three months more. (*CI* 20, pp 14-15, no 16-17; *AR* 4, p 541 no 33-4).

Jan. 25. 116. To Haidar Beg Khan. Is pleased to receive his letter and to learn that the Khan has been doing his best to pay the Company's revenues punctually and that the amount for this year will be 'paid within a few days' time. Says that the Khan is expected to exert himself more earnestly to maintain the friendship which subsists between the Company and the Vazir. Hopes that the Khan will in future observe strict regularity in the payment of the revenues. (*CI* 20, pp 15-16, no 18; *AR* 4, p 534, no 36).

Jan. 25. 117. To the King¹ of Keda.² Complimentary. Sends a few articles as presents through Captain Light.³ (*CI* 20, pp 16-17, no 19; *AR* 4, p 547, no 35).

Jan. 28. 118. *Notification*. The Governor-General in Council being desirous of preventing a rise in the price of grain, and of obviating the consequences of a further scarcity of this article, notice is hereby given that an embargo is laid from this day and until further orders, upon the exportation of all kinds of grain in any ships or vessels going out of the river; but the embargo is not to operate with respect to any ships or vessels already laden. (*CI* 20, p 200, no 189).

Jan. 28. 119. *Notification*. The Governor-General in Council, being desirous of protecting the inhabitants of the lower districts of this country both from a genuine scarcity of grain and from the undue exactions of hoarders until supplies can arrive from the upper districts where there has been a good harvest, notice is hereby given that an

¹ Abdullah Mukarram Shah, King of Keda.

² State on the west coast of Malay peninsula. In 1768, the Siamese Kingdom being disorganised, the Sultan of Keda entered into direct political relations with the Hon. East India Company, leasing the island of Penang to the latter.

³ Superintendent of Penang. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 178, f.n. 1.

1788

embargo is laid from this day and until further orders, upon the exportation of all kinds of grain (except such grain as may on this day be actually laden) in any ships or vessels proceeding from Bengal to the sea. The embargo will not be taken off until the prices become normal and the present distress completely disappears. (*CI* 20, p 201, no 190).

Jan. 29. 120. To Nawab Faizullah Khan Mustaid Jang. Complimentary reply to his two letters, adding that he is satisfied with what he has learnt from the representation of the *vakil*, Lala Moti Lal. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 17-18, no 20; *AR* 4; p 532, no 7).

Jan. 30. 121. From Bhao Bakhshi. Says that Bhagwant Rao, who was granted leave for fifteen days, has now been sent back to his lordship and will attend on him as before. Thanks him for the favours which he bestowed upon Bhagwant Rao and for the watch which he sent for the writer. (*OR* 78; *TR* 27, pp 122-3, no 78; *AR* 4; p 462).

Jan. 30. 122. From Babu Bhup Narayan Singh. Offers thanks for the kindness which his lordship has shown to him. Has been introduced to Mr Duncan on whom he is attending. Hopes that his rights¹ would be restored to him. Is sending Lala Daryao Singh to wait on his lordship as his *vakil*. (*OR* 79; *TR* 27, p 123, no 79; *AR* 4, p 462).

Jan. 30. 123. From the daughter of Raja Balwant Singh². Is pleased to hear of the kindness shown to her son, Babu Bhup Narayan Singh, by recommending his case to

¹ In his letter to his lordship received 3 October 1887 he requested the grant of a *jagir* and the restoration of his allowance which had been suspended. It appears that he had some claims against Raja Mahip Narayan Singh of Benares, for we learn that they came to terms some time after. *Vide* no 1037 below.

² Raja of Benares (1739-64; 1765-70). He was the son of Mansa Ram and father of Raja Chait Singh of Benares who was deposed in 1781.

1788

Mr Duncan. Desires that a compromise should take place between Babu Bhup Narayan Singh and Raja Mahip Narayan Singh, both of whom are her sons. (OR 80 TR 27, p 123, no 80 ; AR 4, p 462).

Jan. 30. 124. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that his lordship must have heard about the hardship caused to the inhabitants of Murshidabad by the scarcity and dearness of grain. Formerly a rupee fetched more than a maund of rice but now it sells at the rate of twenty seers only to the rupee. He wrote to Bhojraj, the chief *beopari*,¹ on the subject. His reply is enclosed for the information of his lordship. Requests that his lordship will issue such orders to the officers as may tend to reduce the price of the grain and to relieve the general hardship. (OR 81 ; TR 27, pp 124-6, no 81 ; AR 4, p 479).

Jan. 30. 125. Bhojraj to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah². Says that the abnormal rise in the price of food grains in the Murshidabad area is due to three main causes. Firstly, that the *beoparis* of Calcutta and Murshidabad and the people of the neighbouring villages have purchased and stored large quantities of grain in the Rarh³ country. Secondly, the grain imported from the south used to be stored and sold at Bhagwanpur⁴ with its 22 *golas*. This year the entire quantity has been purchased and removed by Jahangirnagar (Dacca) dealers. Thirdly, the Calcutta merchants purchase and remove what supply reaches Murshidabad. Requests therefore that the prices may be controlled through executive orders. (OR 82 ; TR 27, pp 126-7, no 81 ; AR 4, p 479).

¹ H. Merchants, dealers, traders.

² Enclosure to the foregoing.

³ Ancient name of western portion of Bengal. It corresponded roughly with the modern Districts of Burdwan, Bankura, western Murshidabad and Hooghly.

⁴ River mart on the Padma, which served as the Gangetic port of Murshidabad and was the source of the city's supplies. About 78 years ago the main stream of the Padma receded from the town and in its place sprang up the present village of New Bhagwangola, about 5 miles to the west of the old site of Bhagwanpur.

1788

Jan. 30.

126. From Makkhan Begum. Says that she is the widow of Nawab Sadrul-Haq Khan¹ and that in April 1781 she instituted a complaint against Musammat Sobha for her share in the inheritance of the deceased Nawab. In 1783 Mr Ives passed a decree of fifty thousand rupees in her favour which was subsequently confirmed by the Governor-General and Council and orders were issued for its execution. In 1785 Mr Ives recovered for her Rs. 1,776 in cash and one old house valued at Rs. 5,895, *i.e.* a total sum of Rs. 7,671 in part payment of her claims. But nothing was done for realising the balance. In March last she petitioned the Council and they issued orders to Mr Ives for the recovery of the money. But that gentleman took no steps in the matter. Says that being in her 70th year, she is keeping an indifferent health and is starving. Requests that an order may be issued to Mr Burges to recover her money without delay. Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan found from the books of her deceased husband that he had left four lakhs of rupees in cash and jewels besides other moveable property. All this fell in the hands of this woman, Sobha, who lives a life of ease and comfort in the gardens of the said Khan. Requests that Sobha may be put in confinement for the balance of the money due to her according to the decree. (*OR* 83; *TR* 27, pp 127-8, no 82; *AR* 4, p 481).

Jan. 30.

127. To Nawab Saadat Ali Khan. Has received his letter. In reply to his request to permit two Europeans, a huntsman and an English instructor, to reside with him, the Governor-General has communicated his views to Mr Duncan. Refers the Nawab therefore to that gentleman for particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 201-2, no 191; *AR* 4, p 549, no 38).

Jan. 30.

128. To Mahadaji Sindhia. Has received his letter. Says that his concern for the well-being and prosperity

¹ Appointed *Darogha* of *Nizamat Adalat* in 1773 and *Naib Nazim* of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in 1778 which office he held till his death on 28 November 1779.—*Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vols. IV & V.

1788

of the Marathas and his regard and esteem for the addressee are well known to the whole world and that he is ever prepared to do anything in his power for the satisfaction of the addressee. It has always been a rule with him to deal justly and fairly with all mankind and it is therefore only proper that he should be open and candid with friends. The treaties that have been concluded and the orders that he has received from his superiors make it incumbent on him to live in peace with all the powers in India as long as they abstain from doing injury to the Company's dominions or to those of their allies. Has noticed with regret the deterioration of the royal affairs but he is not at liberty to meddle with them. Major Palmer will explain to the addressee the resolutions and instructions by which he is bound not to interfere. Has learnt with great satisfaction the intentions of the addressee to establish a closer connection between the English and the Marathas for the benefit of both the governments. Heartily reciprocates the sentiment and would appreciate the move in that direction. (*CI 20, pp 18-19, no 21*).

- Feb. 1. 129. *Notification.* Representations having been made to the Governor-General in Council about the dearness of grain at Calcutta, Murshidabad, Dacca and in some other parts of the country, the Governor-General in Council, with a view to affording all the relief in his power to the inhabitants of these cities, as well as to the people of the provinces in general does hereby give notice and order, that all duties, tolls and customs upon grain at Calcutta, Murshidabad and Dacca, shall be immediately suspended, and the officers of the customs and judges of *adalats*¹ in the said cities are required to see that the resolutions of the Government in this respect are duly carried out. They are to take care that no *ganj* duties, or any other tolls whatsoever, on the importation or sale of grain at any of the markets or *ganjs* within the limits of the

¹ P. a court of Law or Justice.

1788

cities mentioned above, be exacted or taken ; and they are directed to punish all farmers and *daroghas*¹ and officers of such *ganjs* who are found to act contrary to this order by inflicting a fine on the offenders, in every instance, of ten times the amount exacted.

And whereas it has been represented, that on previous occasions the grain merchants held up their stocks with a view to making bigger profits by placing them in the market when the prices should mount still higher and thus contributed greatly to the prevailing scarcity, notice is hereby given that if any person or persons commit such misconduct and withhold grain from the public market with a view to their own profit they shall, upon detection, be punished by the confiscation of the grain and by such other penalties as the occasion may require.

And notice is further given to all grain merchants and others, that the *pachotra* duties on grain, have been everywhere abolished and that they are at full liberty to transport grain to whatever markets within these provinces or places they please, and sell the same duty free without any impediment or molestation. (*CI* 20; *pp* 202-3; *no* 192).

Feb. 2. 130. From Lala Shambhunath, *gumashta* of Raja Bachhraj. Has received his letter saying that if the amount of the bills of four lakhs is not paid by 'day after to-morrow' the bills will be returned. Says that he has just paid ten lakhs to the Company's account and a further sum of Rs. 17,000, out of the four lakhs, since fallen due, has also been provided. The balance will be discharged soon as he expects remittances from Lucknow. As it is a matter of lakhs of rupees requests that fifteen days' time may be granted to him. (*OR* 84; *TR* 27, *pp* 128-9, *no* 83; *AR* 4, *p* 463).

¹ P. The head-men of an office, a superintendent; an inspector of police ; the prefect of a town or village.

1788

Feb. 3

131. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Transmits a copy of the notification which the Governor-General in Council has issued to reduce the price of grain and to restrain the monopolisers from taking undue advantage of the scarcity of this article. (*CI* 20, p 203, no 193; *AR* 4, p 539, no 42).

Feb. 5.

132. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. His lordship having come to know that Sir John D'oyly¹ is his agent in Europe, has directed the Nawab not to communicate with the Court of Directors through any other agency except the Governor-General and the Council. In compliance with his direction sends him two letters—one addressed to the Court of Directors and the other to Sir John D'oyly—and requests him to transmit them to the addressees. (*OR* 85 ; *TR* 27, pp 129-30, no 84 ; *AR* 4, p 479).

Feb. 5.

133. *Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to the Court of Directors.* Is glad to learn that the Hon'ble Company have written to Lord Cornwallis on the subject of raising the Nawab's credit and reputation, augmenting his authority and promoting his prosperity. This has afforded him great consolation. Is keen on preserving friendship with them in the same manner and degree as his deceased father and brothers have done before him. Trusts that the kindness of the Company and the friendship of Lord Cornwallis will be productive of his prosperity and that his distresses will be changed into everlasting ease and comfort. It is needless to write more as he has already furnished every particular of his situation in his first letter. (*OR* 86 ; *TR* 27, pp 130-1, no 84 ; *AR* 4, p 479).

Feb. 5.

134. *Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to Sir John D'oyly.* Informs him that he has sent a letter to the Court of Directors through the Governor-General and the Council.

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 20, f.n. 4

Asks him to write letters about his welfare frequently. (*OR* 87 ; *TR* 27, p 132, no 84 ; *AR* 4, p 479).

Feb. 6. 135. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that there is none except his lordship to whom he can represent his distressed situation of affairs. One cause of his anxiety is that the allowances of Nawab Nasirul-Mulk Diler Jang¹ and his other sons are not consistent with their rank and dignity and the other is the marriage of his three daughters which is absolutely necessary. Hopes that his lordship will give an early attention to his difficulties so that they may be removed and be the cause of his happiness. Has fully discussed with his lordship about the appointment of Iftikharul-Mulk Asadud-Daulah Saiyid Khalilullah Khan Ghazanfar Jang to the office of his *Diwan* and is convinced that there cannot be a better choice. It is expected that he will show a great amount of zeal in the execution of his duties. Further, a representation has already been made to his lordship with respect to the Akbarabad *dak*², the repair of buildings in the fort, the expenses of oil and lamp in the *Imambara*³, the court charity and the complimentary presents of fruits. If these minor items of expenditure are granted it will add lustre to his lordship's fame. Says that he has not yet received the muskets which his lordship had promised to send him when they met at Berhampore. The guns which he uses on the occasion of *Id*⁴ and *Muharram*⁵ for firing salutes have become old and useless and the muskets of his sepoy's are also worn out. Requests him to send fresh muskets and two guns each

¹ Title of Babar Ali Khan. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 300, *f.n.* 1.

² H. post (for conveyance of letters), the mail.

³ H. building in which *Muharram* is celebrated and services are held in commemoration of the deaths of Hasan and Husain, sons of Ali.

⁴ A. an important Muhammadan festival.

⁵ A. first month of the lunar year. In this month Husain, the son of Ali and grandson of Prophet Muhammad, was martyred at Karbala and the month is held sacred by the Muslims and special services are held in commemoration of the martyr and his family.

1788

carrying a ball of about two seers. (*OR* 88; *TR* 27, pp 132-4, no 85; *AR* 4, p 479).

Feb. 5. 136. From Nawab Dil Diler Khan. Intimates that in accordance with his lordship's orders Rai Dip Chand and the writer have received their stipends in Farrukhabad *sicca* for three months from the commencement of *Kuar*¹ 1195 *Fasli* (October 1787) through Aminul-Mulk Mumtazud-Daulah Mr Duncan Bahadur. Hopes to receive his monthly allowance with similar regularity in future. Refers him to *Munshi*² Vir Bhan for further particulars. (*OR* 89; *TR* 27, pp 134-5, no 86; *AR* 4, p 463).

Feb. 5. 137. From Rai Dip Chand. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 90; *TR* 27, p 135, no 87; *AR* 4, p 468).

Feb. 5. 138. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received his letter through Mr Edward Otto Ives objecting to the departure of Muhammad Azim Khan to join Ghulam Qadir Khan against Mahadaji Sindhia who is a friend of the Company. Before the receipt of his lordship's letter, he had already written to Moti Lal, his *vakil*, on this subject. Is sure that he has acquainted the Governor-General with his sentiments. Says that he (the writer) has not deviated in the least from what was represented by Lalji Munshi regarding his friendship for the English. Muhammad Azim Khan left his home without his knowledge. It was reported to him on the next day that the Prince had summoned him. At that time his lordship was at Farrukhabad. After some days the Nawab sent *harkaras*³ to ascertain his whereabouts. Has learnt that after staying for a few days with the Prince he went to Ghulam Qadir Khan and from there to Ismail Beg and now he intends to join Sindhia. He took with him two servants and a palan-

¹ H. the sixth month of the Hindus, corresponding to Sep.-Oct; synonymous with *Asin*.

² A. writer, secretary, interpreter.

³ P. messenger, courier, emissary, spy.

quin and is wandering from place to place. Assures the addressee that all the writer's servants are with him and that he has not sent Muhammad Azim Khan to Ghulam Qadir. Says that Najib Khan¹ and his son, Zabitah Khan, father of Ghulam Qadir Khan, who were formerly servants of his father, entertained an enmity and hatred towards him. Particularly Ghulam Qadir Khan is his bitter enemy. If his lordship should resolve to punish him he will find the writer in the forefront of the English forces with his men and money. In accordance with his engagements and treaties he has not gone out of the limits of his territory for the last fourteen years and has never written any letter to anyone except the Nawab Vazir and his lordship. Says that formerly mischief-mongers gave false and concocted reports about the writer to Mr Hastings but afterwards when he came to know the truth he turned a deaf ear to their representations. Expresses his sincere friendship for the English. (*OR 91; TR 27, pp 136-9, no 88; AR 4, p 469*).

Feb. 5. 139. To Haidar Beg Khan. Says that it has always been disagreeable to him to remonstrate with the Khan on the deficiency and irregularity of his payments both to Calcutta and to Lucknow. Over and above the balance which is due to the Company's Treasury at Lucknow, the sum of Rs. 3,81,685-12-11 of the bills which

¹ Better known as Najibud-Daulah. A poor illiterate Afghan, he started his career in the service of Ali Muhammad Rohilla in the capacity of a foot soldier. His ability and strength of character attracted the attention of Ghaziud-Din, Vazir of the Mughal Emperor, who introduced him to the Court. His victory over Safdar Jang in 1753, procured him the title of Najibud-Daulah. In 1757, he was appointed Amirul-Umara by Ahmad Shah Abdali but was deprived of the office on the latter's departure to Kandahar. After the battle of Panipat in 1761, Ahmad Shah Abdali restored him to the office of Amirul-Umara and Shah Alam, the King, being then a fugitive in Bihar, Najibud-Daulah was entrusted with the care of the city of Delhi and the royal family. Thus he held the highest position in the realm and guided the fortunes of the Empire of Delhi as its supreme regent with credit to himself and benefit to the state till his death on 31 October, 1770.

were drawn on 15th October 1787 have not yet been paid at Calcutta). Has therefore ordered the Treasurer of the Company to protest against those bills and send them back to Lucknow as no confidence can be reposed on the bankers on whom they are drawn. Has given positive directions to Mr Ives that he should on no account receive any future payments from the Khan in bills on the house of Raja Bachhraj and Kashmiri Mal unless they are endorsed by the Khan to the effect that the bills shall be punctually discharged when they became due. It is now absolutely necessary for the Khan immediately to take steps to liquidate the Company's dues and strictly to adhere to the terms of the engagement for the payment of the Company's subsidy in future. (*CI* 20, pp 21-5, no 23; *AR* 4, p 534, no 43).

Feb. 6. 140. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Hopes that his lordship has perused the Nawab's answer to his letter received through Mr Ives. Refers him to Moti Lal, his *vakil*, for further particulars. (*OR* 92; *TR* 27, pp 139-40, no 89; *AR* 4, p 469).

Feb. 6. 141. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. To the same effect as no 138 above. (*OR* 93; *TR* 27, p 140, no 90; *AR* 4, p 469).

Feb. 6. 142. From Sukhdeo Das, *mahant* of the temple of Jagannath¹ at Puri². Says that before the year 1182 *Fasli* (1774 A. D.) 960 *bighas*³ of land in the village Purushottampur in *pargana* Kasijora in *chakla* Midnapur was assigned in the name of *mahant* Govind Das by the

¹ Jagannath, the 'Lord of the world' is a popular Hindu deity whose shrine at Puri attracts thousands of pilgrims from all over India. The worship of Jagannath aims at a catholicism which embraces every form of Indian belief and every Indian conception of the deity—*Imperial Gazeeteer of India*, Vol. XX, p 409.

² Town in Puri District, Orissa.

³ H. measure of land varying in extent in different parts of India in Bengal a *bigha* = 1,600 square yards or a little less than one-third of an acre.

1788

zamindar of Kasijora for the *bhog*¹ to be offered to Sri Jagannath. It has always been appropriated for the expenses of the *bhog*, *thakurseva*² and the *bairagis*³. In 1192 *Fasli* (1784 A. D.) Mr Young⁴ was appointed to the office of *amin*⁵ at Midnapur⁶. The said gentleman demanded *sanad* for that land and said that it would be released according to the *sanad* after the *rusum*⁷ of Rs. 68/- had been paid. When the writer went with the money he was told that out of 960 *bighas*, 402 *bighas* had been added newly. He produced his *sanad* to show that the entire piece of land had been in his possession for a long time. Then, after a fresh enquiry, Mr Young decided that the writer could have possession of 760 *bighas* only. The writer was not satisfied with this order as it deprived him of 200 *bighas* of land. At this Mr Young confiscated the whole of the land. Requests an order to Mr Peiarce⁸ to release the entire property as detailed in the *sanad*. (OR 94; TR 27, pp 140-1, no 91; AR 4, p 421).

Feb. 6. 143. From Babu Sarabjit Singh, *vakil* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh. Has represented the full particulars of the complaints lodged against Mr James Grant by Raja Mahip Narayan and has also submitted the relevant papers. The Raja had also represented his affairs to his lordship at Benares and delivered the papers to him over his own signature. Has already submitted his replies to the charges of Mr James Grant and to the questions

¹ S. dressed food offered to an idol by Hindus.

² S. service of an idol; a grant of revenue for the support of an idol temple.

³ H. one devoid of passion, a Hindu religious mendicant particularly of the *Vaishnava* sect.

⁴ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 313, f.n. 4.

⁵ A. Trustee, revenue officer appointed to take charge of estate or for particular purposes of local investigation or arrangement.

⁶ Town and district in Burdwan Division, Bengal.

⁷ A. fees of *ganungo*; any established fees or duties.

⁸ John Peiarce entered the Company's service in 1765. In 1775 he became Resident at Midnapore. Next year he was appointed Collector of Midnapore which post he held for 12 years when he died on 26 May 1788 at the age of 49.

1788

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of the Council. Is prepared to answer further queries and objections if necessary. He has been waiting on his lordship for the last fourteen months. During this period his private concerns have suffered and the bad climate of this place has adversely affected his health. Requests therefore that in case of any further delay he may be allowed to return home. The other *vakils* of the Raja will attend on his lordship. (OR 95 ; TR 27, pp 141-3, no 92 ; AR 4, p 490).

Feb. 6. 144. From Mir Muhammad Baqir Khan. Is glad to hear about the safe return of his lordship to Calcutta from a tour of the upper provinces. Hopes that his lordship will consider whatever is represented by his *vakil*, Sobha Chand. (OR 96 ; TR 27, p 143, no 93 ; AR 4, p 490).

Feb. 6. 145. From Khan Jahan Khan. About four months ago Ghasi Ram, *vakil* of Prasanna Chand¹, son² of Udey Chand Sahu³ brought a letter from Diwan Kashi Nath⁴ to the Khan at Hooghly. He at once forwarded a copy of it to the Dutch Director at Chinsura but has not heard from him yet. Has just received from Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah a *parwana* on the same subject. Is enclosing a copy of it together with the relevant papers and seeks the Governor-General's instructions regarding the reply he should give to the Nawab. Has already submitted a copy of the regulations according to which cases arising in Chinsura were decided and justice used to be dispensed in former times.

Enclosures.—(1) *Khan Jahan Khan to the Dutch Director at Chinsura*. Ghasi Ram, *vakil* of Babu Kirat

¹ He was also called Kirat Chand as in the enclosure.

² Adopted son of Maharaja Udwat Chand.—I.R.D. *Foreign Misc Memoranda*, Vol. II.

³ Same as Maharaja Udwat Chand of Seth family.

⁴ Probably the well-known Kashi Nath Babu. Diwan Kashi Nath, in the early days of the British Government, served for sometime as *Diwan* to Lord Clive while he was also a Calcutta agent to several Rajas and wealthy men of his time who lived in North-Western Provinces and other parts of India. Died in extreme old age leaving two sons.—L. N. Ghose: *The Modern History of the Indian Chiefs, Rajas, Zamindars, etc.*, Part II.

Chand, son of Jagat Seth's brother, states that Achal Singh deceased had a house in Chuchra¹ which he had mortgaged with the said Babu. About 35 years ago after the death of Achal Singh his son, Chait Singh, transferred the said house by a written deed of conveyance to the Babu who now possesses it and pays the Government revenue for it. Recently one Sheonath Chaube claimed possession of the house and the Zamindar of Chinsura made it over to him without investigating the case or listening to the representations of the Babu's *vakil*. Requests him therefore to make an enquiry into the matter and restore the house to the rightful owner. Dated 29 *Zul-hijja*² (11 October 1787).

(2) *Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to Khan Jahan Khan*. When Achal Singh's property was sequestrated by Nawab Mahabat Jang (Ali Vardi Khan) for non-payment of government dues, three of his houses in Chinsura were made over to Udey Chand Sahu in repayment of the loans advanced by him to Achal Singh. These houses were until recently in possession of Prasanna Chand, son of Udey Chand. It appears that the Dutch Director has now made over one of the houses to one Sheo Chand Dube³. Asks him to make an enquiry and restore the house to the rightful owner. Received 21 *Rabi II*⁴ (31 January 1788). (*OR* 97-9; *TR* 27, pp 143-6, no 94; *AR* 4, p 475).

Feb. 6. 146. From the *vakil* of Nazir Deo's mother (Rani Marichmati).⁵ The Governor-General has very kindly issued a proclamation granting pardon to Nazir Deo⁶,

¹ Chinsura.

² A. 12th month of the lunar year.

³ Sheonath Chaube, in enclosure no (1) above.

⁴ A. 4th month of the lunar year.

⁵ Rani Marichmati was really Nazir Deo Khagendra Narayan's aunt, although in all her correspondence she refers to him as "my son".

⁶ Khagendra Narayan, seventh Nazir Deo of Cooch Behar. Nazir Deo was the appellation given to the hereditary Commander-in-Chief of Cooch Behar who belonged to a collateral branch of the royal family.

1788

if he should appear before him within six months' time. If Nazir Deo is alive he is sure to take advantage of this offer. But his brother and mother are in prison at Rangpur¹ and no one is allowed to have access to them. Requests an order to the Collector of Rangpur that they should be free to live in a house of their choice, to receive callers and to carry on their correspondence. In case they might be desirous of coming to Calcutta they should be sent here with honour so that Nazir Deo's mother may write to her son, wherever he may be, and induce him to appear before the Governor-General. Requests further that a man may be appointed to act as his (the *vakil's*) guard so that no one may molest him when he goes to the *mufassal*. Requests also that a number of copies of the aforesaid proclamation may be supplied to him sealed with the seal of the *sadr*. One of the *vakils* will remain at Calcutta and another will go to make a search for Nazir Deo in order to produce him before the Governor-General. (OR 100).

Feb. 6. 147. To Sadasheo Rao Malhar (Bhao Bakhshi). Acknowledges the receipt of his letter through his *vakil*, Bhagwant Rao. Says that agreeably to the request of the addressee the Governor-General will pay due attention to whatever the *vakil* will represent on his behalf. (CI 20, p 203, no 194; AR 4, p 526, no 44).

Feb. 6. 148. To Jagat Seth Harak Chand. Has received his letter congratulating him on the occasion of Christmas. Returns the *nazr* as it is not the custom now to accept it but, all the same, he appreciates the compliment. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (CI 20, p 204, no 195; AR 4, p 535, no 45).

Feb. 8. 149. From Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia. Has received the Governor-General's letter saying that he has returned to Calcutta after making a tour of all the Company's possessions and reviewing the troops at the different

¹ Town and district in Eastern Bengal.

1788

stations and intimating that Major Palmer, who has been appointed Resident at the writer's court, will shortly proceed there. (*OR 101 ; TR 27, p 146, no 95 ; AR 4, p 490*).

- Feb. 8. 150. To Babu Bhup Narayan Singh and his mother. Acknowledges the receipt of their letters. Says that the residence of a *vakil* at Calcutta on their part is an unnecessary expense. Advises them to make whatever representations they like through Mr Duncan, the Resident at Benares. (*CI 20, p 204, no 196 ; AR 4, p 526, no 46*).
- Feb. 8. 151. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Informs him that Mr Burges has been authorised to repair the bridge of Murshidabad. (*CI 20, pp 204-5, no 197 ; AR 4, p 539, no 47*).
- Feb. 10. 152. From Prince Jahandar Shah. Is glad to receive his letter. Informs him that he is encamped at Firozabad¹ on his way to Akbarabad. Hopes to hear from him frequently. (*OR 102 ; TR 27, p 147, no 96 ; AR 4, p 486*).
- Feb. 10. 153. From Diler Himmat Khan. Is glad to receive his letter respecting the payment of the money² to the Vazir and the arrangement of the affairs of his country. Says that his lordship is well acquainted with the particulars of the ruinous state of his territory. Assures him however that the Nawab would apply himself wholeheartedly to the improvement of the administration and welfare of his subjects and that he would pay the *peshkash* to the Vazir regularly. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*OR 103 ; TR 27, pp 148-9, no 97 ; AR 4, p 469*).
- Feb. 11. 154. From Khiradmand Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR 104 ; TR 27, p 149, no 98 ; AR 4, p 476*).

¹ Town in Agra District, U. P.

² The reference is to the payment of his *peshkash* of 4½ lakhs of rupees annually to the Nawab Vazir.

1788

Feb. 12.

155. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Informs him that on Friday 22 *Rabi* II (1 February, 1788) he invested Iftikharul-mulk Asadud-Daulah Saiyid Khalilullah Khan¹ Bahadur Ghazanfar Jang with a *khilat* of seven pieces, one bejewelled turban, one *jigha*², one *kalghi*³, one string of pearls, one sword and one *palki*⁴ and appointed him to the office of the *Diwan* to the *Nizamat*. Asks him to accept the *nazr* from the said *Diwan*. (OR 105 ; TR 27, pp 150-1, no 99 ; AR 4, p 479).

Feb. 12.

156. From Babbu Begam. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 106 ; TR 27, p 151, no 100 ; AR 4, p 462).

Feb. 12.

157. From Mirza Khalil⁵. To the same effect forwarding a *nazr* of 5 mohurs. (OR 107 ; TR 27, pp 151-2, no 101 ; AR 4, p 482).

Feb. 12.

158. From Muhammad Riza Khan. Says that the inhabitants of Murshidabad are experiencing great difficulties owing to the dearness of grain. Although this year crops have been destroyed by inundation and storms in the eastern district of Bengal yet in the Rarh regions the harvest has been plentiful. Reports that several merchants and *beoparis* have purchased grain at 2 maunds a rupee and hoarded the stock. As there is no supply of grain from Patna, Purnea⁶ and Dinajpur, the price of grain is rising daily. In the months of *Aghan*⁷ and *Pus*⁸ grain sold at Murshidabad at one maund a rupee but the price has since risen to two rupees per maund. Suggests that the collectors of Rarh region be asked to call on all merchants and *beoparis* to produce their papers showing the rate of purchase price and the quan-

¹ Mirza Khalil, according to the vol. of translations.

² P. ornament of jewels worn in the turban.

³ (from Hindi *Kalki*), a gem-studded ornament fixed in the turban, a plume.

⁴ H. a palanquin.

⁵ Familiar name of Saiyid Khalilullah Khan.

⁶ Town and district in Bhagalpur Division, Bihar.

⁷ H. the eighth Hindu solar month corresponding to Nov.-Dec.

⁸ H. the ninth Hindu solar month corresponding to Dec.-January

tity held in store by them and take bonds from them that they shall bring their grain to Murshidabad and sell it at a profit of one or two annas in the rupee. Those who fail to comply with the above orders should be prosecuted and their grain sold by the officers of Government. Hopes that this measure would receive the approval of the Governor-General and would remove the difficulties of the public. (OR 108; TR 27, pp 152-4, no 102; AR 4, p 478).

Feb. 12. 159. From Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. To the same effect as no 64 above. (OR 109; TR 27, p 154, no 103; AR 4, p 480).

Feb. 12. 160. From Beniram Pandit. Is glad to receive his letter. Forwards a letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Says that *Bakhshi* Bhawani Pandit Appa, who is coming to Benares for pilgrimage, met Mr Forster¹ near Nagpur. Encloses letters from Bhawani Pandit and Mr Forster. Informs him that Bhawani Pandit is in the neighbourhood of Allahabad from where he will proceed to Benares. Has received another letter from Bhawani Pandit through Hari Bhadar Pandit for his lordship. After conferring with Bhawani Pandit he will send a translation of the above-mentioned letter. (OR 110; TR 27, pp 154-5, no 104; AR 4, p 461).

Feb. 12. 161. From Bhawani Pandit, *Bakhshi* of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. After obtaining permission from

¹ George Forster entered the Company's civil service in 1782. Appointed Marathi Interpreter on the Bengal Establishment. In October, 1787, he was deputed to Nagpur with a view to ascertaining the Raja's disposition towards the Company, and if possible, to induce him to join in a confederacy against Tipu. On arrival he found the state weak and completely under the influence of Poona. So he did not perceive any advantage would accrue by entering into a new treaty with the Raja. He was recalled in December 1788. He was deputed again in February 1790 to procure a passage through the Raja's territory for an English army which was proceeding to fight Tipu. He met with a sudden death at Nagpur on 5 January 1791. He travelled from India through Kashmir, Afghanistan, Herat, Persia, by the Caspian Sea to Russia and has left the account of the travels.—*Poona Residency Correspondence*, Vol. V; C. E. Buckland: *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

1788

Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla the writer has proceeded on pilgrimage to Allahabad, Benares and Gaya. The Maharaja has already sent a letter informing his lordship of this matter through Beniram Pandit and Bishambhar Pandit. Requests that as he is accompanied by a large number of pilgrims and has much baggage he may be exempted from duties and taxes. (*OR 111; TR 27, pp 155-64, no 105; AR 4, p 465*).

Feb. 13. 162. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. For the last two months people have been sending false reports to his lordship about the writer. Says that he is sincere in his engagements and the report that his son has sent a letter to Prince Jahandar Shah is false. He considers the King of England and the English Company as his sovereign and has no concern with others. Refers him to Moti Lal for further particulars. (*OR 112; TR 27, pp 156-7, no 106; AR 4, p 469*).

Feb. 13. 163. From Muhammad Ali Khan, son of Faizullah Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR 113; TR 27, pp 157-9, no 107; AR 4, p 482*).

Feb. 13. 164. *James Grant to Raja Mahip Narayan Singh.* Says that the defaulters of revenue are not earnest about the payment of their arrears. On the contrary, they offer excuses and make objections against the demands made upon them. With a view to finding out whether their objections are frivolous or legitimate and also to examine some of their alleged grievances the writer has appointed a Board of arbitrators composed of Kalb Ali Khan, Babu Fath Chand, Ram Chand Pandit and Shankar Pandit¹. Encloses a copy of their terms of enquiry. Asks the Raja therefore to appoint a *naib* of the *Sadr Qanungo*² and a clerk to carry on the ministerial work of the Board. Desires that these two men should be sent to him next morning. Wants also to

¹ *Mutasaddi* of James Grant, Resident at Benares.

² P. expounder of the laws, applied especially to village and district revenue officers.

know what arrangements the Raja has made for the payment of the arrear and current revenues of lands held by him as *taahud*¹ in *sarkar* Ghazipur². He must see to it that every bit of land is brought under cultivation. Asks him also to direct his *naibs* in Sikandar-pur³ to collect the full amount of the revenue and not to allow any reduction from the previous assessment. The balances and current dues of Chausa⁴, Zamaniah⁴ and Narwan⁵ should be collected without undue severity. The clerk who is to attend the above-mentioned arbitration Board should be directed to bring with him the *wasil-baqi*⁶ papers of 1189 to 1192 *Fasli*.

James Grant to Kalb Ali Khan, Ram Chand Pandit, Shankar Pandit and Babu Fath Chand. The defaulters of revenue are not earnest about their payment and make representations. Some of them are in confinement and some have guards posted over them. They (the addressees) are therefore appointed arbitrators with a view to finding out whether the grievances and hardships alleged by the defaulters are real or frivolous. They are therefore directed jointly to examine each case and after making full investigation communicate their findings and suggestions to him so that action may be taken accordingly. One clerk from the office of the Raja (Mahip Narayan) and one on the part of the Resident shall attend to the ministerial work of the Board. One man on the part of the *Qanungo* shall attend as witness and another will be appointed to seal the papers on behalf of the *Qazi*⁷. (OR 114-15 ; TR 27, pp 159-61, no 108 ; AR 4, p 483).

Feb. 13. 165. From Raja Gobind Ram. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Prays for his health and happiness. Re-

¹ A. agreement, covenant, contract, engagement.

² District in Benares Division, United Provinces.

³ Town in Ballia District, United Provinces.

⁴ *Pargana* in Ghazipur District, United Provinces.

⁵ *Pargana* in Benares District, United Provinces.

⁶ A. account showing the amount of the revenue realised and the balance outstanding.

⁷ A. a judge under Muhammadan rule.

1788

grets that owing to extreme weakness he could not see the Governor-General. Thanks him for the letter exempting him from the payment of duties at Gaya. For further particulars refers him to Lala Bhawani Parshad. (OR 116 ; TR 27, pp 164-5, no 109 ; AR 4, p 471).

Feb. 13. 166. *Dastak* granted to the members of the family of Bhagwant Rao, the *vakil* of Mahadaji Sindhia, who are proceeding from Benares to Calcutta. They have with them articles of food and clothing. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to accord them all facilities on their way. (CI 20, p 205, no 198).

Feb. 15. 167. From Iradatullah Khan. Reminds him about his previous letter and requests a reply. (OR 117 ; TR 27, pp 165-6, no 110 ; AR 4, p 474).

Feb. 15. 168. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Is glad to learn from his letter that he has appointed Saiyid Khalilullah Khan Ghazanfar Jang to the office of the *Diwan* of the *Nizamat* and that he has bestowed on him a *khilat* with *sarpech*¹, *jigha*, etc. on the occasion. (CI 20, p 22, no 24 ; AR 4, p 539, no 48).

Feb. 15. 169. To Babbu Begam. To the same effect as the foregoing. (CI 20, p 23, no 25 ; AR 4, p 526, no 49).

Feb. 15. 170. To Saiyid Khalilullah Khan. Is glad to learn from his letter that he has been appointed by Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to the office of the *Diwan* of the *Nizamat* and that he has been invested with a *khilat*, *sarpech*, *jigha*, etc. on that occasion. Hopes that he will attend to his duties diligently and conscientiously. (CI 20, p 23, no 26 ; AR 4, p 541, no 50).

Feb. 16. 171. From Maulavi Amsahud-Din². Says that former-

¹ P. ornament of gold, silver or jewels generally placed in front of the turban.

² Maulavi Amsahud-Din was the *mutawilli* of the *madrassa* and mosque at Sitapur (Kamdebpur) in Serampore sub-division, Hooghly. For some time he was occasionally employed by Mr Hastings in the Persian Translator's office for translating Arabic letters into Persian and *vice versa*. He died in October 1803, leaving three sons, Masihud-din, Ali Hafiz and Ali Nasir.

1788

ly the daily grant of ten rupees and ten annas and another grant of one hundred and twenty-five rupees a month were made in his favour by the orders of Mr Hastings from the villages of Hat Kandlikha and Hat Naigoli and other rent-free lands for the maintenance of the *madrassa*¹, the monastery, the *masjid*² and the guest-house. But the Zamindar of Burdwan did not give him possession of the villages in question. So the Committee of Revenue allowed him five rupees daily from the revenues of Burdwan. In 1774 Mr Hastings passed orders for the renewal of his grants and the restoration of his lands. Still he did not get possession of his lands and the present Raja and his *Diwan* plead ignorance of these orders. In fact, they were minors at the time when the orders were issued. Requests therefore that orders may be passed for the renewal of the grant and the payment of the arrears.

Report of the Qanungo upon the claims of Maulavi Amsahud-Din, dated July 19, 1788. During the reign of Nawab Shaista Khan³ and Nawab Ali Vardi Khan⁴ the revenue of 3,705 *bighas* of land in the *pargana* of Ballia Basundri situated in *chakla* Burdwan was granted to the forefathers of Maulavi Amsahud-Din for the maintenance of a *madrassa* and a *masjid*. Then Mr Cartier⁵ assigned to the Maulavi a daily allowance of

¹ A. school, college.

² A. mosque.

³ Governor of Bengal (1664 and 1680). He was the brother of Empress Taj Mahal and maternal uncle of Aurangzeb.

⁴ Nawab of Bengal. (1740-56).

⁵ Cartier, John (1733-1803). Governor of Bengal: arrived in India as a writer in Company's service. Was a factor and assistant at Dacca, whence he was expelled in 1756; joined other fugitives at Fulta, served as a volunteer under Clive and won the approbation of the Court of Directors; chief of Dacca factory, 1761; Second in Council at Calcutta, 1767; succeeded H. Verelst as Governor of Bengal, Dec. 26, 1769; followed as Governor, by Warren Hastings, April, 13, 1772; eulogized by Edmund Burke for his government of Bengal; died in Kent, January 25, 1802.—C. E. Buckland: *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

1788

four rupees eight annas upon the revenues of Kamdebpur and Ganeshbati, five rupees upon those of Hijili¹ and Hooghly² and one rupee and two annas upon Khwaja Anwar Shahid's³ lands situated in Burdwan. The total assignments amounted to ten rupees and ten annas. After that Mr Hastings confirmed the allowance and granted assignments on the revenues of the villages of Kailpur, Kamdebpur, Ganeshbati, Tilhati and Kaparpur and added to them a further allowance of one hundred and twenty-five rupees monthly from the revenues of Ballia Basundri. On July 15, 1774 Mr Hastings issued four *parwanas* to this effect, one of which was addressed to Raja Tej Chand ordering him to hand over the villages to the said Maulavi. Mr Duncan translated the proceedings into English and deposited them among the records of the Supreme Council. (OR 118).

Feb. 20. 172. From Jagannath Chaube. Says that for fifteen years he served as the *gumashta* of the house of Jagat Seth Khush-Hal Chand⁴ at Dacca. On the succession of Jagat Seth Harak Chand he was suspended from his post and has therefore been reduced to extreme poverty. He is neither dismissed nor reinstated to his former position nor is he paid back the money which he advanced in the firm's business. Requests therefore that orders may be issued to Harak Chand to submit his case to the bankers of Murshidabad for arbitration so that justice may be

¹ *Pargana* and *chakla* in Midnapore District, Bengal.

² Town and district in Burdwan Division, Bengal.

³ Khwaja Anwar Shahid fell in battle near the town of Burdwan in 1127 A. H. (1715-6 A. D.) and his tomb was built by Emperor Farukh Siyar in consideration of his services.—*Burdwan District Gazetteer*.

⁴ Third *Jagat Seth*. He was the eldest of the four sons of *Jagat Seth* Mahtab Ray. The title of *Jagat Seth* was confirmed on him by Emperor Shah Alam in 1766. At the age of 18, he was appointed Company's banker and in the treaties of 1766 and 1770, which confirm the appointments of two successive Nawabs of Bengal, *Jagat Seth* is mentioned as one of the three ministers who were entrusted with the supreme management of affairs. He died at the early age of 39.—*Bengal: Past and Present*, Vol. XXII; *Murshidabad District Gazetteer*.

1788

done to him and he may be released from his trouble and pass his remaining days in peace. (OR 119 ; TR 27, pp 166-7, no 111 ; AR 4, p 474).

Feb. 20. 173. From Abbas Quli Khan. Is anxious for an interview but regrets that owing to illness and extreme weakness he is unable to undertake a journey to Calcutta. (OR 120 ; TR 27, pp 167-8, no 112 ; AR 4, p 459).

Feb. 20. 174. From Dil Diler Khan. Thanks him for his letters and for the sanction of an allowance to him. Sends Munshi Vir Bhan to represent certain matters and hopes the Governor-General will approve them. (OR 121 ; TR 27, pp 168-9, no 113 ; AR 4, p 467).

Feb. 20. 175. From the mother of the Nawab of Farrukhabad. Reminds him of her previous application. Says that she sought the protection of the Company for fear of her enemies. But unfortunately she could not obtain the peace that she desired. Out of the twelve hundred rupees sanctioned for her by the Governor-General Mr Becher,¹ the *Bakhshi*, pays her five hundred rupees only. The mint and Begam Ganj at Farrukhabad that previously belonged to her have been confiscated by Khiradmand Khan who left no stone unturned to disgrace her. Requests for justice. (OR 122 ; TR 27, pp 169-70, no 114 ; AR 4, p 470).

Feb. 20. 176. From Rai Dip Chand. Has been honoured by his *parwana* directing Mr Duncan to pay the allowance for 1788 to Nawab Dil Diler Khan and the writer. Is certain that he will obey the orders. Only in hopes of kindness from the Governor-General the Nawab and

¹ Becher, John, joined Bengal civil service 1781 ; Assistant to Commercial Chief at Murshidabad 1 October, 1781 ; Deputy Paymaster to troops at Cawnpore ; Superintendent of Collections of Bazar Duties and Deputy Military Pay-master General, and Pay-master of extraordinaries 13 October 1783 ; Pay-master of troops at the Presidency 31 October 1791 ; Judge and Magistrate of Murshidabad 3 February 1797 ; Third Judge of the Court of Appeal at Calcutta 28 July 1804 ; Resigned 1804-5.—Dodwell and Miles : *Bengal Civil Servants*.

1788

the writer, abandoning their home, have come to reside at Benares. Both are grateful for the allowances fixed for them but submit that the amount is inadequate. Hopes that the Governor-General will adopt such measures as will enhance his fame and their prosperity. (OR 123; TR 27, pp 170-1, no 115; AR 4, p 468).

Feb. 20. 177. From Balaji Rao Gobind, *Sardar* of Kalpi. Thanks him for his letter. Professes friendship for the English. Requests frequent letters. (OR 124; TR 27, pp 171-2, no 116; AR 4, p 462).

Feb. 21. 178. From Haidar Beg Khan. Has received his letter asking him to apply himself more assiduously to the payment of the Company's dues. Says that he is a well-wisher and a servant of the Company as well as of the Nawab Vazir of Oudh (Asafu'd-Daulah). Has left no stone unturned for the good of both the governments. With regard to the payment of the Company, says that during the last four months he has paid Rs. 6,50,840 to the Prince (Jahandar Shah) and Rs. 1,89,056 on account of the expenses of the Residency. Has paid all that money in cash and by bills. The Company's subsidy has been also paid up to the *qist*¹ of December. The instalment for January amounting to Rs. 99,000 has just become due and it shall be cleared in the month of February. So far he has not been guilty of neglect in the payment of the Company's subsidy. Hopes for his lordship's favour and support. (OR 125; TR 27, pp 172-5, no 117; AR 4, p 473).

Feb. 21. 179. From *Rajmata* Kamateshwari², mother of the Raja of Cooch Behar.³ Says that she has represented to the gentleman of the district the aggressive conduct of Kunwar Khagendra Narayan, the Nazir Deo, towards

¹ A. instalment.

² Rani Kamateshwari was the step-mother of Raja Harendra Narayan.

³ State in Bengal situated at its north-eastern extremity.

her and her son, Harendra Narayan¹, and she also petitioned the Governor-General on the subject. When her son succeeded to the throne in 1190 B. S. (1783 A. D.), the Nazir Deo, and Shyam Chandra Ray, the *gumashta*, hatched a conspiracy and maltreated Sarbananda Gosain² the *Rajguru*, and all her servants. The Nazir Deo then assumed the title of Raja and struck coins³ in his own name and began to oppress the people. Some inmates of her zenana also died of starvation, for he had stopped the supply of food. He had a design on the lives of the writer and her son also but the timely help of the Company saved them on that occasion and the Nazir Deo fled to Balarampur⁴. Mr Moore⁵ released the *Guru Gosain* and the servants from confinement and reported the matter to the Supreme Council. The Company's government then sent Diwan Ganga Prashad to investigate the Nazir Deo's misdemeanours. He made a public inquiry about the high-handedness and tyrannies of the Nazir Deo, whose guilt was established. So Ganga Prashad confined him in the Behar *Kachahri*⁶ under a guard of Captain Duncanson's⁷ sepoy and she dismissed him from the office of the Nazir Deo and appointed Jibendra Narayan⁸ in his place. After some days the Nazir Deo managed to run away to Bul Chand,⁹ the *Qanungo* of Rangamati,¹⁰ and made a complaint to the Governor-

¹ Raja of Cooch Behar (1783-1839).

² The *Rajguru*, who through the influence of *Rajmata* (Queen of Dhirjendra Narayan) became the virtual ruler of Cooch Behar.

³ This is an unfounded allegation.

⁴ The ancestral seat of Nazir Deo, about 12 miles from Cooch Behar City.

⁵ Collector of Rangpur. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 183, *f.n.* 3.

⁶ H. court house, an office where any public business is transacted.

⁷ More correctly, Lieut. W. M. Duncanson. Cadet 1782. Ensign 3 January 1783. Lieut. 9 February 1788. Resigned 8 October 1790. Hodson.

⁸ Jibendra Narayan was the last hereditary Diwan Deo. His appointment as Nazir Deo was not effective.

⁹ Bul Chand Barua, father-in-law of Nazir Deo.

¹⁰ Village in Goalpara District, Assam. It was an important town during the days of the Mughal rule.

1788

General. Two years later he enlisted Ganeshgīr Sannyasi and some *bargandazes*¹ and having won over Gulab Singh² her treacherous *subadar*, plundered the *rajbari*³ of Behar and carried away the writer and her son to Balarampur. The gentleman (Collector) of the district and Captain Rotton⁴ are thoroughly acquainted with the incident. At Balarampur they met with the same harsh treatment till they were rescued by the gentleman of the district. Further says that Khagendra Narayan and his son are in hiding somewhere in the vicinity of the State and commit all kinds of depredations. Others who molested her and her son are confined at Rangpur. She was confident that all the offenders would be punished adequately. But the Governor-General has offered an amnesty to Khagendra Narayan on the condition that he should appear before the *Khalisa*⁵ or the Chief of the district within six months. This news has frightened her very much. The Nazir Deo will now think that as all his past offences have been excused, he will be forgiven even if he murders her and the minor Raja. The writer would not have worried about the treachery and misdeeds of the Nazir Deo if the Raja had not been a minor. Hopes that the Governor-General will issue such orders as would confer security on the ryots and protect and save her life and that of the infant Raja. Promises that the annual tribute to the Company will be paid regularly. (OR 126-7⁶; TR 27, pp 175-9, no 118; AR 4, p 466).

¹ *Bargandaz*. P. a matchlock man, a messenger of the court, a guard.

² *Subadar* of the palace-guard.

³ B. palace of the king.

⁴ Captain John Rotton, commanding a detachment from the 29th Battalion of sepoy at Dinajpur was deputed to effect the release of the Raja and the Rani of Cooch Behar who had been carried off to Balarampur by the people of Nazir Deo Khagendra Narayan. He, with the assistance of Lieut. Hill and Ensign Duncanson, released the Raja and Rani on 27 August 1787.

⁵ A. office in which the revenue work of the Muhammadan and early British Government was done.

⁶ OR 127 is the Persian translation of OR 126 which is in Bengali.

1788

- Feb. 21.* 180. From Raja Harendra Narayan. Has already represented full particulars through his *vakil*. Sends a present of walnuts. (*OR* 128¹).
- Feb. 23.* 181. From Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Sends 57 maunds of ice and begs his lordship's acceptance. (*OR* 129 ; *TR* 27, p 180, no 120 ; *AR* 4, p 478).
- Feb. 25.* 182. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Says that he has sent many *arzis* to his lordship but received no reply. Hopes that he will favour him with his reply. Further says that on 3 *Rabi* II (13 Jan. 1788²) the Nizam went out for hunting. As on such excursions he sometimes remains out for as long as two months it cannot be said when he will return. The people who were sent with presents to Tipu Sultan at Seringapatam³ have not yet come back. (*OR* 130; *TR* 27, p 180, no 121; *AR* 4, p 480).
- Feb. 25.* 183. From Shambhunath, *gumashta* of Raja Bachhraj. Says that he has repeatedly represented to his lordship that the *hundis*⁴ for 4 lakhs of rupees had not arrived from Lucknow and that he would pay the money as soon as they were received. But his lordship sent back the bills which had fallen due direct to Lucknow⁵. Has since received bills for Rs. 2,70,000 from Lucknow and now he is ready to pay. The remaining bills will be cleared on their receipt in a few days. Hopes that his lordship will issue orders to the Treasury Officer to receive the money that he is sending. Begs that the balance may also be received at this end because he has accepted the bills and is bound to pay. (*OR* 131; *TR* 27, p 181, no 122 ; *AR* 4, p 463).

¹ Original is in Bengali.

² Jan. 11, according to the vol. of translations.

³ Island and town in Mysore, capital of Tipu Sultan with his palace and tomb.

⁴ H. bill of exchange.

⁵ *Vide* no 139 above.

1788

- Feb. 25. 184. To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, pp 24-5, no 27 ; AR 4, p 536, no. 51*).
- Feb. 25. 185. To Mahadaji Sindhia. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, p 25, no 28 ; AR 4, p 550, no 52*).
- Feb. 25. 186. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. To the same effect as no 120 above. (*CI 20, pp 25-6, no 29 ; AR 4, p 532, no 53*).
- Feb. 25. 187. To Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan, son of Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, p 26, no 30 ; AR 4, p 542, no 54*).
- Feb. 25. 188. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Informs him that his letter addressed to the Company has been forwarded to England. (*CI 20, p 27, no 31 ; AR 4, p 539, no 58*).
- Feb. 25. 189. To Bhawani Pandit, *Bakhshi* of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Has received his letter through Hari Bhadar Pandit. Says that agreeably to his request and the recommendation of his master, the Maharaja, necessary orders have been issued to the authorities at Gaya and Benares to afford him all possible facilities in the performance of his pilgrimage. (*CI 20, p 27, no 32 ; AR 4, p 527, no 56*).
- Feb. 25. 190. To Beniram Pandit. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, p 28, no 33 ; AR 4, p 525, no 55*).
- Feb. 25. 191. To Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received his letter. (This letter is badly worm-eaten and nothing can be made out of it). (*CI 20, p 28, no 34 ; AR 4, p 532, no 61*).
- Feb 25. 192. To Raja Gobind Ram. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, pp 205-6, no 199 ; AR 4, p 33, no 59*).
- Feb. 25. 193. To Mir Muhammad Baqir Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, p 206, no 200 ; AR 4, p 542, no 60*).

1788

Feb. 25. 194. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges with thanks the receipt of 57 maunds of ice sent through Hikmat Ma'ab Khan. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 206, no 201; *AR* 4, p 542, no 61).

Feb. 26. 195. From Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter saying that the Governor-General had sent Mr Forster and Mr Rind¹, who were fully in his confidence, to the Maharaja and that he has detained Beniram Pandit owing to his old age and infirmity. Is anxious for the arrival of the aforesaid gentlemen and hopes that they will reach soon. As Beniram Pandit has become old and weak the writer requests his lordship to send Bishambhar Pandit with all haste. Hari Bhadar Govind Rao will attend his lordship in all matters instead of Bishambhar Pandit who will not be detained for more than one month.

P.S.—Says that he is going on a pilgrimage to Ramtek.² This letter is therefore written in haste. Promises to write full particulars in the next letter. (*OR* 132; *TR* 27, pp 181-3, no 122; *AR* 4, p 463).

Feb. 26. 196. From Bishambhar Pandit. Transmits through Hari Bhadar Pandit a letter from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla to the Governor-General. Says that Bhawani Pandit has reached Allahabad and will shortly proceed to Benares. After having had a meeting with him the writer will see the Governor-General at Calcutta and will place before him the particulars of his interview with Bhawani Pandit. (*OR* 133; *TR* 27, p 183, no 124; *AR* 4, p 461).

¹ J. N. Rind entered Bengal army as cadet in 1778. Second Lieut. 1779, Lieut. 1781, Captain 1797, Major 1803, Retired 1804.

² Ramtek, Ramgiri of Sanskrit literature.—Town and *tahsil* of Nagpur District, Central Provinces. The town lies round the foot of a detached hill on which, standing about 500 feet above the town, are a number of temples the principal one being that of Ram Chandra. A large religious fair is held here in December and a smaller one in March. It is a sacred place of the Hindus.

1788

Feb. 26.

197. *Diwan Bhawani Pandit to Beniram Pandit.* Says that after his departure for a pilgrimage to Allahabad, Benares, etc., he received a letter for the addressee and a *kharita* in the name of the Governor-General from Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. He transmitted them through *qasids*¹ but received no reply. Has since heard the news of the death of one of the *qasids* on the way but the other might have reached and delivered the letters. On 3 *Rabi* I (14 Dec.) he heard about the death of Bimbaji² which caused a great affliction to the Maharaja and everyone else. His departure was therefore postponed for a week or so. Then he took leave of the Maharaja and set out. Now he is at Bulahry. During his journey he met Mr Forster, who was going to the Maharaja on the part of the Governor-General. The writer performed all the duties of friendship towards him and deputed a confidential servant to accompany him. Mr Forster has written an English letter to the Governor-General on the subject of their meeting. Expects a letter from the addressee at Allahabad and hopes that he will make arrangements about the writer's pilgrimage with the authorities there. Asks whether Bishambhar Pandit has gone to Calcutta or he is still at Benares. Says that he did not get any information about Hari Bhadar Pandit since he went to the Governor-General. (*OR* 134; *TR* 27, pp 184-6, no 125).

Feb. 27.

198. From Haidar Beg Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. The Governor-General has asked him to be strictly regular in the payment of the Company's dues. Has already mentioned the causes of the delay in the payment of the Company's money. The Governor-General has drawn attention to the balance of the bankers' bills amounting to Rs. 3,81,685-12-11 which has not been paid yet and has ordered the Treasury

¹ A. messenger.

² Son of Raghuji I and full brother of Mudhoji Bhonsla. After the death of his father, Bimbaji received the district of Chhattisgarh and lived at Ratanpur. He died in 1787 without male issue. C. U. Wills; *British Relations with Nagpur State*.

1788

Officer to reject them and send them back to Lucknow. The Governor-General further said that the bankers were not reliable because they paid no attention to their own credit and that he had issued orders to Mr Ives not to receive in future the bills of Lala Kashmiri Mal and Bachhraj on account of the Company's money. The writer requests the Governor-General to have confidence in him. He will clear the balances of the Company's dues. Has written to Mr Ives to send the bills to his lordship. Takes upon himself the responsibility for the due discharge of the Company's subsidy in future. Also hopes that the bankers for the sake of their reputation will make no procrastination in future. (*OR* 135; *TR* 27, pp 186-90, no 126; *AR* 4, p 473).

Feb. 27. 199. From the Rana of Udaipur¹. Congratulates the Governor-General on his safe arrival at Calcutta and requests frequent letters. (*OR* 136; *TR* 27, p 190, no 127; *AR* 4, p 485).

Feb. 27. 200. From Sristedhar and Jankiram, *vakils* of the Raja of Cooch Behar. Represent that Khagendra Narayan, the Nazir Deo, his son, Birendra Narayan and his brother, Bhagwant Narayan, attacked their constituent, Maharaja Harendra Narayan and his mother, plundered the *Rajbari*, and brought them prisoners to Balarampur where they subjected them to various humiliations. As the Maharaja had, out of his own accord placed himself under the protection of the Company, the latter despatched a body of troops for his assistance. After an engagement with those rebels, this force succeeded in releasing the Raja and his mother from confinement and in restoring the former to his *gadi*². But a proclamation has now been issued at the *sadr* and *mufassal* granting amnesty to Nazir Deo if he should report himself (to the authorities). The terms of the proclamation have alarmed the Raja, his mother and the ryots

¹ Or Mewar, State in Rajputana.

² H. royal cushion, throne, seat of some eminent personage.

of the *raj*¹. It is astonishing that a man who was guilty of fighting the Company's troops should receive pardon merely on making his appearance. On being apprised of the leniency of this order, Nazir Deo will feel encouraged and will create further disturbances, as he is bent on taking the lives of the Raja and his mother. Hope that Bhagwant Narayan and the aunt of the said Nazir Deo who are confined at Rangpur, will be punished adequately. Request that an order may be issued prohibiting Nazir Deo from entering the boundaries of the *raj* and the Collector of the district may be directed strictly to enforce this order. Pray that a letter be sent to the Raja asking him on no account to be frightened because of the amnesty granted to Nazir Deo but to carry on the administration of the *raj* as usual. (OR 137 ; TR 27, pp 191-2, no 128 ; AR 4, p 467).

Feb. 27. 201. From the King (Shah Alam). Has been informed that the Governor-General reached Calcutta from Farrukhabad and that Major Palmer has been appointed at His Majesty's Court in the place of Captain Kirkpatrick² who has resigned. Wishes to hear about his health frequently. (OR 138 ; TR 27, p 193, no 129 ; AR 4, p 475).

Feb. 27. 202. From the Peshwa. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Congratulates him on his safe arrival from

¹ H. kingdom, administration.

² Kirkpatrick, Captain William (1754-1812). Born 1754; son of Col. James Kirkpatrick of the Madras Cavalry; joined the Bengal Infantry in 1773; became Major General in 1811; was Persian Interpreter to General Stibbert, Commander-in-Chief in Bengal, for periods between 1777 and 1785; was Resident at Gwalior, and Persian Interpreter with Lord Cornwallis in the Mysore war, 1791-2; mediated in Nepal, until then unvisited by any Englishman, between the Nepalese and Chinese in 1793; Resident at Hyderabad in 1795; met Lord Mornington at the Cape in 1798 and became his Military Secretary in 1798 and Private Secretary in 1799; afterwards Resident at Poona in 1801; left India in 1801; he was well versed in Oriental languages and Indian lore; translated Tipu's diary and letters from Persian, and wrote an account of his mission to Nepal; he died August 22, 1812.—Buckland : *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

1788

England to Calcutta on 18 *Zul-qada*¹ (12 September 1786) as the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief. Is glad to know of his friendly disposition and good qualities from the letter of Lala Sewak Ram². Sends cloth and jewels as a present through Gulab Ray. (OR 139; TR 27, pp 193-4, no 130; AR 4, p 487).

Feb. 27. 203. From Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 140; TR 27, p 195, no. 131; AR 4, p 484).

Feb. 27. 204. From the Rani of Burdwan. Informs him about her departure from Amboa³ to Burdwan on 5 *Phagun*⁴ (14 February) at the repeated requests of her son Tej Chand. (OR 141; TR 27, p 195, no 132; AR 4, p 463).

Feb. 27. 205. From Banwari Lal⁵. Is deputing Damri Lal as his *vakil* to Calcutta in order to represent some of his affairs to the Governor-General. Hopes due attention will be paid to his case. Requests a reply to his *arzis*. (OR 142; TR 27, pp 195-6, no 133; AR 4, p 465).

Feb. 27. 206. From Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam⁶. Is deputing Misri Lal to Calcutta to represent some of her affairs to the Governor-General. Hopes due attention will be paid to her case. (OR 143; TR 27, p 196, no 134; AR 4, p 485).

Feb. 27. 207. From Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan⁷, *Qaziul-Quzat*⁸. Complimentary. (OR 144; TR 27, p 196, no 135; AR 4, p 466).

¹ A. 11th month of the lunar year.

² *Vakil* of the Peshwa at Calcutta.

³ *Mahal* in Satgaon *Sarkar*, Hooghly.

⁴ H. 11th Hindu solar month corresponding to February-March.

⁵ Nephew of Raja Dhiraj Narayan, *Diwan* of Patna.

⁶ Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam was the eldest daughter of Nawab Mirza Muhammad Iraj Khan; and widow of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah. After her father's death in about 1780 his *jagirs* in Bihar and district of Jessore were continued to her and her sister, Imari Aimanah Khanam. The pension of Rs. 900 that was enjoyed by her father was similarly continued to the two sisters. She died on 5 *Rabi II*, 1208 A. H. (10 November 1793).

⁷ He was appointed *Qaziul-Quzat* in 1784.

⁸ A Chief judge.

1788

Feb. 27.

208. From Basharat Khan, *vakil* of Alif Khan¹. Represents that in the year 1192 Bengali (1785 A. D.) Imam Bakhsh Khan, the younger brother of his constituent, Alif Khan, who is a zamindar of 8 annas share in *pargana* Atia,² petitioned the Council for his due share of the ancestral inheritance. The Council ordered that the estate should be partitioned and one half of it should be made over to the petitioner. On 11 *Pus* 1194 (23 December 1787 A. D.) before the partition could take place, Imam Bakhsh met his death. He left no heir but Alif Khan. It appears that the deceased during his lifetime had rented his share of the property to Sham Kishor Acharya,³ Zamindar of Alapsingh.⁴ On the day of his death Anandi Ram came to make the collections on the part of Sham Kishor. Chaitan Singh, a *mahajan*⁵, also put forward claims on the estate. Dhokal Singh and other *barqandazes* were on his (the *mahajan*'s) side. They took possession of village Pagarla where stood the ancestral house of his constituent. They laid waste the entire property. They were so boisterous that when the mother of the deceased went to the place in order to bury the body in a proper manner, they did not allow her to see the face of the deceased and themselves buried the body. Says that Alif Khan is the only heir of the deceased.

¹ Alif Khan was the son of Khuda Nawaz Khan, Zamindar of *Pargana* Atia in Mymensingh. This *pargana* was granted in *jagir* by Emperor Akbar to Saiyid Khan Pani, the founder of the Karatia family. Upto Khuda Nawaz Khan, the sixth in descent from Saiyid Khan, the Pani family enjoyed the whole of the *pargana*. The first division into equal parts came with the two sons of Manim Khan, Khuda Nawaz Khan and Maldar Khan. In 1787 the *bara* 8 annas was settled with Alif Khan, and the other children of Khuda Nawaz Khan, and the other 8 annas with Ali Yar Khan, son of Maldar Khan.—*Mymensingh District Gazetteer*.

² Sub-division, *pargana* and village in Mymensingh, Bengal.

³ Sham Kishor was a cousin of Kishan Kanta Acharya, the son of Hari Ram Acharya, a co-sharer in the zamindari of Alapsingh. Kishan Kanta's wife, Ganga Debi Chaudhrani, had adopted Sham Kishor's son after the death of her own son, Rudra Kishan. (*Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, no 576).

⁴ *Pargana* in Mymensingh, Bengal.

⁵ S. lit. a great man, but mostly applied to a merchant, banker or money-changer.

Requests therefore that a *sanad* may be issued confirming Alif Khan in the possession of the entire property. (OR 145 ; TR 27, pp 197-8, no 136 ; AR 4, p 459).

Feb. 29. 209. From Mirza Khalil, *Diwan* of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter asking him to apply himself diligently to his new duties. Says that in obedience to the orders of the Nawab he has accepted the office though it is not commensurate with his dignity. Assures him that he will carry out his work with diligence and zeal so as to safeguard the Nawab's interests and win his lordship's approval. (OR 146 ; TR 27, pp 198-9, no 137 ; AR 4, p 482).

Feb. 29. 210. From Diler Himmat Khan, Nawab of Farrukhabad. Represents that he has received a letter from the Nawab Vazir of Oudh (Asafud-Daulah) on the subject of the duties of Farrukhabad which with a copy of his answer he sends to the Governor-General and hopes that the case will receive due consideration. Says that so far no body has ever interfered in the collection of duties in his country and that the system of duties now proposed by the Nawab Vazir will ruin his country. Has not been neglectful in the payment of his tribute. Hopes therefore that the Governor-General will write to the Nawab Vazir in a proper manner so as to secure the good management and improvement of his administration. (OR 147 ; TR 27, pp 199-201, no 138 ; AR 4, p 470).

Feb. 29. 211. I. Nawab Asafud-Daulah to Muzaffar Jang, Nawab of Farrukhabad. Informs him that Indarman will explain to him verbally the full particulars of the proposed system for the regulation of the duties at Farrukhabad. Expects his consent.

II. Nawab Diler Himmat Khan of Farrukhabad to Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter on the subject of the duties of Farrukhabad. Has also understood whatever was explained verbally by

1788

Indarman. Says that the establishment of the proposed plan for the collection of duties will spell complete ruin to his affairs and government and unless it is withdrawn the prosperity of his government will be impossible. Has come to know from Indarman that the Nawab Vazir desires that there should be only one place where duties would be collected in the whole of his dominion from east to west. Hopes that he will not adopt such a plan for the writer's dominions. (*OR* 148 ; *TR* 27, pp 201-2, no 138 ; *AR* 4, p 470).

Mar. 1. 212. From Khiradmand Khan. Refers him to Nawab Muzaffar Jang's letter furnishing full particulars of the collection of duties at Farrukhabad. Represents that so far nobody has ever interfered with the collection of duties, but the inauguration of a new system by the Vazir (Asafud-Daulah) will be detrimental to the affairs of the Nawab's government and to the interests of his subjects. Says that the Nawab has been paying the *nazrana* regularly to the government of the Nawab Vazir. Hopes the Governor-General will so order things as may prove advantageous to the Nawab and beneficial to his government. Requests that the old system of the levy and collection of duties in Farrukhabad may not be altered. (*OR* 149 ; *TR* 27, pp 203-4, no 139 ; *AR* 4, p 476).

Mar. 3. 213. From Raja Tej Chand of Burdwan. Says that he has so long regularly paid the revenue of the government. Now, owing to the distressed condition of the country and the ryots as well as the scarcity of grain, he is helpless. The Collector of the district is harsh towards him and makes repeated demands for the arrears. Hopes that the Governor-General will write to the Collector to permit the Raja to pay a visit to the Governor-General in order to represent his case personally to him. Assures him that he will act according to his lordship's pleasure. (*OR* 150 ; *TR* 27, pp 204-5, no 140 ; *AR* 4, p 464).

Mar. 3. 214. From Ismail Beg Khan. Says that he desires to strengthen the friendly relations with his lordship

because amity between chiefs is a source of prosperity to mankind. With this object in view he has appointed Fazl Ali¹ to wait upon his lordship, but until he reaches there the writer's letters will be transmitted through Mir Jani, the *naib* of Fazl Ali. Intimates that his army has inflicted heavy punishment upon Sindhia, who had taken possession of his country, and has driven him out. Sindhia's associates and companions have also been annihilated. Has written these particulars to his lordship as the news of a friend's victory gives pleasure to friends. Hopes that his lordship will look upon the writer as a sincere friend and assures the addressee that the writer's followers will remain firm to the engagement which was made with the deceased Nawab (Najaf Khan)² and are prepared in every way to carry out the Company's orders. (*TR* 27, pp 205-6, no 141 ; *AR* 4, p 474).

Mar. 4. 215. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Sends ice for the Governor-General through Mir Kamalud-Din Husain Khan and hopes it will be accepted. Dated 19 *Jumada* I (27 February). (*OR* 151 ; *TR* 27, pp 206-7, no 142 ; *AR* 4, p 479).

Mar. 5. 216. From Manohar Das. Thanks him for his kind letter desiring the writer to go and see him. On receipt of this order the writer was anxious to set out but he could not do so as the date of the anniversary of the death of his father, Gopal Das Sahu, was at hand. Being the eldest son he has to perform the rites according to the custom of the Hindus. He has also to go to Gaya after performing the rites here. Will attend on his lordship later. Requests a reply to his *arzis*. (*OR* 152 ; *TR* 27, pp 207-8, no 143 ; *AR* 4, p 482).

Mar. 5. 217. From Raja Gobind Ram, *vakil* of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Is

¹ *Vakil* of Mirza Ismail Beg Khan.

² Minister of Shah Alam. For Biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 9, f.n. 2.

1788

much afflicted to hear of his lordship's fall from horseback. Hopes that the Governor-General is not seriously hurt. Is anxious to hear about his progress towards recovery. Dated 13 *Jumada* I, 1202 A. H. (21 February, 1788). (OR 153 ; TR 27, p 208, no 144 ; AR 4, p 471).

Mar. 5. 218. From Khan Zaman Khan, Munirud-Daulah II. Congratulates him on the occasion of New Year's Day. Dated 15 *Jumada* I (23 February). (OR 154 ; TR 27, p 208, no 145 ; AR 4, p 476).

Mar. 5. 219. From Munni Begam. Says that she has been hearing about his health through Nasir Muhammad Khan¹ for a long time but now requests a letter from his own pen. Dated 19 *Jumada* I (27 February). (OR 155 ; TR 27, p 209, no 146 ; AR 4, p 481).

Mar. 5. 220. To the Peshwa and Nana Farnavis. Complimentary reply to their letters. (CI 20, p 29, no 35 ; AR 4, pp 543, 547, no 62-3).

Mar. 7. 221. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Says that he has already written to the Governor-General on the subject of the arrears of his allowance amounting to Rs. 31,225 during the Residency of Mr Pott and that he sent Mr Burges to his lordship to explain his case. Is very glad to know from Mr Burges on his return from Calcutta that the Governor-General ordered the Committee of Revenue to examine the accounts of Mr Pott for five months from January to June 1787 and to pay the arrears of the writer after an investigation. But the gentlemen of the Committee of Revenue say that Mr Pott did not submit the accounts for that period. The writer sent Mr Burges to Mr Pott who replied that he had sent the accounts to the Governor-General. He says that he will transmit the accounts again to Mr Johnson² and Mr

¹ *Vakil* of Munni Begam.

² Richard Johnson was given a deliberative seat in the Revenue Board on May 23, 1786, and became the Accountant General of Revenue Department early next year. For biographical note see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 1, f.n. 2.

Larkins¹, if so ordered by the Governor-General. Requests that Mr Pott may be directed to send the accounts to those gentlemen so that the writer may receive his arrears. (*OR* 156 ; *TR* 27, pp 209-10, no 147 ; *AR* 4, p 478).

Mar. 8. 222. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has come to know that Mr Hastings has written to the English gentlemen at Calcutta to record their views on his treatment of the Indian chiefs during his stay as Governor-General on behalf of the Company. As his lordship has no objection to other people writing their views the chiefs and inhabitants of Bengal and Benares have also drawn up public addresses on the subject. As the writer and his officers were fully satisfied with Mr Hastings he is also sending an address in favour of the late Governor-General. Hopes that it will be forwarded to England along with the other documents. (*OR* 157).

Mar. 9. 223. From the Prince (Jahandar Shah). Says that during his stay in the Company's territory he paid three or four lakhs of rupees as *nazrana* to His Majesty so that his Begam, attendants and servants might be permitted to come to him but the royal consent could not be obtained. Has since paid his respects to His Majesty and after taking leave of him, has set out for the Company's dominion with his family and dependents. Will send Mirza Abdur-Rahim Beg² later to represent his affairs to his lordship. As his intention was to reside with his family in the English territory he had obtained an engagement from his lordship that in case the Prince returned he would perform the duties of respect and friendship to him as before. As he has full confidence in the sincerity and engagement of the English he is now on his way to that quarter. Is

¹ William Larkins, first Accountant and later Accountant General, Bengal (1774-93). He retired in 1793 and died 1800.—*Bengal: Past and Present*, Vol. XIV.

² *Vakil* of Prince Jahandar Shah with the Governor-General since September 1787.

1788

now encamped near Farrukhabad and will soon march towards Benares. (*TR* 27, pp 210-12, no 148 ; *AR* 4, p 486).

Mar. 10. 224. From Shambhunath, *gumashta* of Lala Bachhraj. Says that according to the calculation of the Treasury Officer the sum of Rs. 3,81,000 is payable by the writer. This amount includes the sum of Rs. 51,000 on account of *batta* charges calculated at the rate of Rs. 7-3-0 per cent. But this latter item does not tally with the writer's account as there is a difference of weight between the rupee of Lucknow and that of Calcutta. Requests therefore that the rate of *batta* may be settled by the Governor-General. In the meantime he is prepared to tender Rs. 3,50,000 in the following manner : Rs. 3,30,000 on account of bills and Rs. 20,000 on account of *batta* charges. Hopes the Governor-General will order the Treasury Officer to receive the said sum of money. (*OR* 158; *TR* 27, pp 212-13, no 149 ; *AR* 4, p 463).

Mar. 10. 225. From Raja Bikramajit Singh, Zamindar of *sarkar* Shahabad¹. Intimates that in the year 1194 *Fasli* (1787-88 A. D.) the settlement of *sarkar* Shahabad was made with him and he paid the revenues. The Chief of the district has appropriated vast sums of money out of the collections for which he gives no credit to the writer. At the same time he demands from the latter the sums which are outstanding against the farmers. He now himself collects the revenue of the writer's zamindari and has confiscated the estate allotted for the expenses of the writer's family. Is now placed in confinement and cannot go to see the Governor-General personally to explain his position. Hopes that the Governor-General will investigate his case and will appoint an *amin* to inquire into the writer's payments and dues so that he may be released from his confinement. Gives the particulars of the various amounts collected but not credited by the Chief of the district.

¹ District in Patna Division, Bihar.

1. Charged in the name of <i>rozinadars</i> ¹ against the established custom .	Rs. 4,000
2. Charged from the receipts of the farmers of the <i>mahals</i>	7,000
3. Taken from the <i>mufassal</i> <i>amala</i> of the Chief of the district	11,000
4. Charged from the <i>amils</i> now out of employment .	22,000
5. From Raja Khayali Ram of <i>pargana</i> Panwar ² on ac- count of <i>band-o-bast</i> .	10,000
6. On account of <i>sihbandi</i> ³ (at the time of Raja Chaït Singh's rebellion) . . .	28,000
7. On account of revenues due from contractors . . .	70,000
Total .	<hr/> 1,52,000 <hr/>

(OR 159-60 ; TR 27, pp 213-15, no 150 ; AR 4, p 465).

Mar. 11. 226. From Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Thanks him for his letter delivered by Mr Forster and Mr Rind. Says that it gave him much pleasure to meet the above-mentioned gentlemen whom the Governor-General has sent to see the condition and state of his country. (OR 161 ; TR 27, pp 216-17, no 151 ; AR 4, p 481).

Mar. 11. 227. From Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Says that astrologers consider it an auspicious time when the sun enters the sign of Capricorn and sesame cooked in sugar at this time according to the Hindu belief ensures good luck for the ensuing year. Is therefore sending a parcel

¹ *Rozinadar*. P. one who receives daily wages, or a daily allowance.

² *Pargana* in Shahabad, Bihar.

³ P. Irregular soldier employed in the service of revenues and police.

1788

of it to the Governor-General and hopes it will be accepted. (OR 162 ; TR 27, p 218, no 152 ; AR 4, p 481).

Mar. 11. 228. From Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Refers him to the writer's previous letter about *Diwan* Bhawani Pandit's pilgrimage to Gaya, Allahabad and Benares. Hopes the Governor-General has complied with the request made therein for providing all facilities to the party. Requests his lordship to grant Bhawani Pandit similar facilities on his return journey. (OR 163 ; TR 27, pp 218-19, no 153 ; AR 4, p 481).

Mar. 11. 229. From Bhawani Pandit, *Diwan* of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Says that some time ago he transmitted to his lordship two letters from the Maharaja and one from himself. The writer after performing the pilgrimage of Allahabad reached Benares on 16 *Jumada I* (24 February). On his arrival there he received another letter from the Maharaja which he is forwarding to the Governor-General. Proposes now to proceed to Gaya and hopes that the Governor-General will favour him with the necessary permission. Refers him to Beniram Pandit and Hari Bhadar Pandit for further particulars. (OR 164 ; TR 27, pp 219-20, no 154 ; AR 4, p 465).

Mar. 11. 230. From Beniram Pandit. Thanks him for his letter directing him always to send a list of the followers of a pilgrim when applying for exemption from duties at Gaya. Says that he has already written to the Maharaja on this subject. As Bhawani Pandit is the first officer of the Maharaja he did not enclose a list of his followers. In future however a list of the followers of a pilgrim shall always be sent. Bhawani Pandit reached Benares on 16 *Jumada I* (24 Feb.). Everybody is fully aware of the friendship subsisting between the Maharaja and the Company. About 6,000 people therefore accompanied Bhawani Pandit who is a person of very high rank. The writer is a well-wisher of both the governments and is always exerting to promote their mutual friendship. Assures his lordship that everything will be done according to his

3

wishes. Now sends him three letters from the Maharaja one of which came with a present of sesame prepared in sugar, the second announces the arrival of Mr Forster at Nagpur and the third concerns Diwan Bhawani Pandit. These will be delivered by Hari Bhadar Pandit. Refers him to Bishambhar Pandit for further particulars. (OR 165 ; TR 27, pp 220-2, no 155 ; AR 4, p 461).

17. 11. 231. *Beniram Pandit to Hari Bhadar Pandit.* Says that *Diwan Bhawani Pandit Bakhshi* reached Benares on 15¹ *Jumada I* (23 Feb.). Bishambhar Pandit went out to receive him and the writer lodged him as his guest in the house situated on the banks of the river Ganges. On the next day the *Diwan* spoke about the pilgrimage of his followers and the writer showed him the letter of the Governor-General. The *Diwan* said that he had in his company 2,000 well-to-do people and 4,000 poor men. He is now anxious to go to Gaya and has written a letter to the Governor-General for permission. (OR 166 ; TR 27, pp 222-5, no 156 ; AR 4, p 462).

1ar. 12. 232. From Babu Ausan Singh². Says that Munshi Patni Mal, the writer's *vakil*, who had come home on leave, is now returning to resume his duties. He will represent to the Governor-General all particulars respecting the writer. (OR 167 ; TR 27, p 227, no 159 ; AR 4, p 485).

Mar. 12. 233. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Forwards to him the summary of news received by him on 15 *Jumada I* (23 February). Says that the King is expected to return to Delhi in a short time owing to want of money and disobedience of the chiefs. The Prince (Mirza Jahandar Shah) seeing the levity of the conduct of Nawab Ghulam Qadir Khan has sent his sons and the Begams towards Farrukhabad and as he is also dissatisfied with his

¹ 16 *Jumada I*, according to nos. 229 and 230.

² *Jagirdar* of *pargana* Saidpur in Ghazipur District. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 87 f. n. 1.

servants he himself will probably return to Farrukhabad or Lucknow. The Pindaris¹ of Tukoji Holkar² arrived within 30 *kos*³ of Jaipur and started looting. The Raja of Jaipur and Thakur Pahar Singh are anxious to take leave of the King and return to their homes. The Raja paid Rs. 25,000 in all to the King as *peshkash*. It is reported that plunder and theft are rampant in that country. There is a great deal of ostentation but little sincerity among the chiefs. The situation at the fort of Akbarabad (Agra) remained unchanged up to the moment of writing ; Nawab Ismail Beg Khan is finding it very difficult to capture the place. Owing to the negligence of the *Qiladar*⁴ the fort of Aligarh was taken by Ghulam Qadir Khan and the *Qiladar* having settled terms with him, went away with all his property and went towards Lucknow. All the Delhi chiefs except the Raja of Jaipur and Nawab Ismail Beg Khan are carrying on negotiations with Patel Sahib (Mahadaji Sindhia). Patel Sahib is uneasy about Ali Bahadur⁵ and Tukoji Holkar and fears that they may

¹ The Pindaris were a set of free-booters in Central India of no common race and of no common religion. They welcomed to their rank the outlaws and broken men of India—Afghans, Marathas or Jats. They in fact, represented the *debris* of the Mughal empire which had not been incorporated by any of the local Muhammadan or Hindu power that sprang up out of its ruin. By and by they gained in strength and number till for a time it seemed as if the inheritance of the Mughals might pass to these armies of banditti. Though they had their headquarters in Malwa, their depredations extended far beyond Central India. At last Marquess of Hastings exterminated them in 1817.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 277, *f. n.* 5.

³ H. measure of distance approximately 2 miles, but varying in different parts of India.

⁴ P. Commandant of a fort.

⁵ Ali Bahadur, Nawab of Banda, was the eldest son of Shamsher Bahadur, the illegitimate son of Peshwa Baji Rao I. He received the investiture of Bundelkhand from Nana Farnavis. Accompanied by his brother, Ghani Bahadur and supported by a powerful army he invaded Bundelkhand but was opposed by Nana Arjun, the guardian of Bakht Singh, a descendant of Raja Chhatarsal. Ali Bahadur defeating Arjun (1788), took Bakht Singh prisoner and seized such part of Banda as belonged to Bakht Singh together with the entire *raj* of Panna. He reigned for about 12 years and died in 1802 A. D.—Beale : *Oriental Biographical Dictionary* and Persian Records.

act independently of him.¹ After an interview between the chiefs and Sindhia treaties and engagements will be concluded. The Raja of Nahan² has come to Benares to perform the pilgrimage of Benares and Thakurdwara.³ The *Diwan* (Bhawani Pandit) and a relative of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla have come to perform the pilgrimage of Benares and Gaya. Dated 22 *Jumada* I (2 March 1788). (OR 168 ; TR 27, pp 227-9, no 160 ; AR 4, p 458).

Mar. 12. 234. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Although the newspapers of Hindustan and the Deccan are regularly received by the Governor-General still the writer ventures to transmit the summary of the news received by him. The King (Shah Alam) left Delhi but gained no advantage. The Raja of Jainagar (Jaipur⁴) has delivered a bill of Rs. 25,000 to the King. He wants in collusion with the Nawab Nazir⁵ and Raja Himmatgir⁶ (Himmat Bahadur) to ruin Nawab Najaf Quli Khan.⁷ He has accordingly agreed to pay a *nazrana* of Rs. 2,60,000 a year to His Majesty. Najaf Quli Khan defies everybody when he is under the influence of liquor but when he is sober he assumes a submissive tone. He has sent his seal and the key of Gokalgarh⁸ to the King and has asked for a *khilat* of *mukhtari*⁹ and offered to transact the affairs of the King and to pay into the Treasury three years' tribute of

¹ After his discomfiture in the Lalsot campaign Mahadaji Sindhia had applied to the Peshwa for aid. Ali Bahadur was then chosen by Nana Farnavis to lead the proposed reinforcements which Tukoji Holkar was ordered to join on the way. Knowing the jealousy of Nana Farnavis Sindhia was naturally apprehensive about the attitude they would take up. Ali Bahadur joined Sindhia in November 1788.—Sarkar: *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. III.

² Capital of Sirmur State in the Punjab.

³ Town and *tahsil* in Moradabad District, United Provinces.

⁴ State in Rajputana.

⁵ Manzur Ali Khan. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 165, f. n. 1.

⁶ Gosain Chief. For biographical note, see *ibid*, p 17, f. n. 5.

⁷ Najaf Quli Khan was a Hindu convert to Islam brought up by Mirza Najaf Khan whom he served very ably. He had his *jagir* in Narnaul. He died in September 1791.

⁸ Stronghold, two miles from the town of Rewari, which was seized by Najaf Quli Khan after the retreat of Sindhia from Lalsot.

⁹ P. being invested with full powers.

1788

Jainagar which he expects to realise from the Raja. He further promises to relieve the fort of Agra and restore it to the King. The King had agreed to the terms when Ram Ratan¹ offered him a sum of Rs. 10,000 on behalf of the Raja of Jainagar and thus turned the King against Najaf Quli Khan.

News concerning the Raja of Jainagar.—The Raja wishes to summon both Ismail Beg Khan and Himmattgir and wants to go to Jainagar to celebrate his own marriage. The Raja thinks it advisable to withdraw himself from the war.

*News about Ranjit Singh Jat*².—Ranjit Singh has written *arzis* of allegiance to the King and letters of friendship to Patel Sahib (Mahadaji Sindhia). He entertains enmity towards Ismail Beg Khan. Malik Muhammad Khan³, Mons. Lesteneau⁴ and other chiefs have left Ismail Beg Khan and are going to join Ranjit Singh.

News concerning Ismail Beg Khan.—Ismail Beg is penniless. He has plundered the town of Akbarabad. People belonging to all ranks and classes have been oppressed by him. Lakhwaji Pandit⁵ repulsed the attacks of Ismail Beg Khan and his efforts to capture the fort failed.

News concerning Ghulam Qadir Khan.—It is said that Ghulam Qadir Khan urges on Prince Mirza Jahandar Shah not to join the Vazir or Patel Sahib. The King also has written that the Prince must not be allowed to join any party. Anand Rao⁶ and Deshmukh⁷ who were at Aligarh,⁸

¹ Probably Rai Ratan Lal, *vakil* of the Raja of Jaipur. *Vide Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII.

² Raja of Bharatpur. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 391, f. n. 4.

³ *Ibid*, p 415, f. n. 5.

⁴ *Ibid*, p 412, f. n. 2.

⁵ For biographical note see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 167, f. n. 2.

⁶ Agent of Mahadaji Sindhia.

⁷ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 159, f. n. 1.

⁸ District, *tahsil* and city in United Provinces.

1788

capitulated to Ghulam Qadir Khan and set out for Lucknow. Ghulam Qadir's authority is established in the fort.

News about Patel Sahib.—Sindhia is much pleased at the arrival of Major Palmer and expects assistance from the English and the Deccan. Ali Bahadur and Tukoji Holkar, after taking leave of the Peshwa with the golden standard (*zari patka*) arrived on the banks of the Narbada, plundered several *mahals* of the Rana¹ of Jodhpur and caused a great confusion in the Rana's army. After the arrival of Ali Bahadur, Sindhia will march towards Akbarabad. Thieves, highway robbers, the Sikhs and the Mewatis are creating troubles and disquiet in the environs of Delhi and in the armies of the chiefs. Dated 19 *Jumada* I (27 February). (OR 169 ; TR 27, pp 229-32, no 161; AR 4, p 458).

Mar. 12. 235. From Raja Gobind Ram. Says that by the grace of God he has supported his family so long. Now illness and infirmity have overtaken him and he is unable to satisfy his creditors. He has served the Governor-General and many other gentlemen. He has proved himself a well-wisher of the Company. Requests the Governor-General's assistance and protection in his present embarrassments. Hopes that his lordship will take pity on his distressed family. (OR 170 ; TR 27, pp 232-3, no 162 ; AR 4, p 471).

Mar. 12. 236. From Radha Nath, Zamindar of Dinajpur. Acknowledges the receipt of his *parwana*. Says that in spite of the damage caused to his *mahals* by heavy rainfall he has, through the grace of God and the exertions of Ram Kanta Ray², the writer's *peshkar*, paid the revenues of his zamindari to the gentleman of the district up to the end of

¹ Bijai Singh, Rana of Jodhpur (1753-93 A. D.).

² Ram Kanta Ray was the uncle of Raja Radha Nath of Dinajpur. In 1787 he was appointed *Diwan* to the Raja who was then a minor. In 1792 the Raja was placed in charge of his zamindari; and soon after he dismissed Ram Kanta who was however reinstated by Government in 1794.

1788

Magh 1194 Bengali (January-February, 1788 A. D.). Will pay the balance in due course. Hopes his lordship's favour. (*OR* 171 ; *TR* 27, pp 233-4, no 163 ; *AR* 4, p 468).

Mar. 12. 237. From Ram Kanta Ray, *Diwan* of the Raja of Dinajpur. Informs him that the *qists* have been paid. (*OR* 172 ; *TR* 27, p 234, no 164 ; *AR* 4, p 468).

Mar. 12. 238. From the Rani of Burdwan. Intimates that she returned to Amboa on 25 *Phagun* (5 March 1788 A. D.) after paying a visit to her son, Raja Tej Chand Bahadur, at Burdwan. (*OR* 173 ; *TR* 27, p 234, no 165 ; *AR* 4, p 464).

Mar. 12. 239. From Fazl Ali Khan. Says that he reached home after six months as his progress was delayed by heavy rains. Could not write the particulars of himself or of this part of the country (Delhi) because war and confusion prevailed there. A narrative of events was sent to his lordship previously. Now transmits a letter from Ismail Beg Khan who has a following of a lakh of people, all united in their friendship for the English. Ismail Beg has detained him on account of several matters and consequently he has been prevented from waiting upon his lordship. Hopes that his lordship will give a proper answer to Ismail Beg. His lordship may hear all particulars from Mir Jani whom the writer has left in his place. As he will soon return to his lordship it is hoped that his salary from the Company will be continued to him. (*TR* 27, pp 225-6, no 157 ; *AR* 4, p 470).

240. To Diler Himmat Khan. Has received his letter together with a copy of the Nawab Vazir's letter as well as the copy of the Khan's reply to it. Approves of the plan proposed by the Nawab Vazir regarding the collection of duties from merchants at Farrukhabad. Has desired for a long time that a regular system of commerce be established between the dominions of the Company and those of their allies so that the merchants of the neighbouring

1788

countries may visit those places and carry on their trade without fear of molestation. It was with this object in view that the plan regulating the collection of duties at Farrukhabad was proposed by the Nawab Vazir. If the Khan will study the plan carefully he will find that the arrangement made by the Nawab Vazir will, in due course, prove advantageous to his country. Advises the Khan therefore to acquiesce in the arrangement proposed. Is convinced that the Nawab is a well-wisher of the Khan and that he will remain so as long as the addressee continues to pay the stipulated *peshkash* to him. (CI 20, pp 30-1, no 36 ; AR 4, p 532, no 65).

Mar. 12. **241.** To Khiradmand Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (CI 20, p 31, no 37 ; AR 4, p 536, no 66).

Mar. 13. **242.** From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Says that the Governor-General knows fully the particulars of the writer's former obedience and services towards the Prince. With the idea of getting control over the affairs of the empire the Prince left the writer's place and allied himself with Ismail Beg Khan and Ghulam Qadir Khan. What happened afterwards is well known. The Prince has now arrived at Farrukhabad. Encloses a copy of the *shuqqa* which he received from the Prince. Says that when the Prince first came 'here', the writer performed every duty of obedience incumbent on him. Now that he is coming back again the writer feels some hesitation to receive him. In the first place, he is unable to provide the money for the expenses of the Prince. Has received several *shuqqas* from the King asking for money by way of loan. Ghulam Ali Khan, who resides here on the part of the King, has also received two *shuqqas* from the King directing him to remind the writer to send him some money, the amount of which should be a little more than what he pays to the Prince. Secondly, it has to be considered that if he does not supply any money to the King and fixes an allowance for the Prince His Majesty would cor-

1788

tainly take this to heart. The writer does not like that the Prince should reside at Lucknow. It is understood that the Prince intends to visit Lucknow first and after ascertaining the writer's views he will proceed to Benares. Out of respect to His Majesty, the writer does not think it proper that the Prince should reside in the Company's territories either. Wishes to know the Governor-General's sentiments in this matter.

The Prince to Nawab Asafud-Daulah.—Is astonished at not receiving any answer to his several *shuqqas*. Is anxious to move towards that quarter (Lucknow). Informs him now that he has brought his wife and children from Delhi and is proceeding to Farrukhabad where he hopes to arrive in three or four days. (*OR* 174-5 ; *TR* 27, pp 235-7, no 166-7 ; *AR* 4, p 491).

Mar.

243. To the Prince (Jahandar Shah). Has received his letter. Has learnt that the Prince desires to reside with his family and attendants in the Company's territories. Says that, in consideration of the inconvenience the Prince had to experience during his stay last time in a large town like Benares, he has selected Rajmahal¹ as a suitable place for his residence. Hopes that the Prince will also approve of his selection. (*CI* 20, pp 32-3, no 38 ; *AR* 4, p 546, no 67).

¹ Subdivision and village in Santal Parganas District, Bihar, about seventy miles N. N. W. from Murshidabad. Rajmahal is now a mere collection of mud huts, interspersed with a few respectable houses. The old Muhammadan city, buried in rank jungle, extends for about 4 miles to the west of the modern village. During the reign of Emperor Akbar, Raja Man Sing, a Rajput general, on his return from conquest of Orissa, selected Rajmahal (formerly Agamahal) as the capital of Bengal, on account of its central position with respect to that Province and to Bihar, and because it commanded the Ganges and the pass of Teliagarhi. In 1608 the seat of Government was removed from hence to Dacca by Islam Khan, but in 1639 was brought back by Sultan Shuja, the unfortunate brother of Aurangzeb, during whose viceroyalty it attained great importance, being the established metropolis of the Bengal and Bihar provinces, for which it was admirably situated.—W. Hamilton: *East India Gazetteer* ; *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, Vol. XXI, pp 76-8.

1788

Mar. 17. 244. From the King. Says that the valuable services rendered by the Nawab Vazir and the English Chiefs during his stay at Allahabad need not be recounted here. When His Majesty came to Shahjahanabad (Delhi) he commissioned the late Zulfaqarud-Daulah (Nawab Najaf Khan) with troops and royal artillery to capture Akbarabad (Agra) and to punish the Jats. By the help of God the object was fully accomplished. Zulfaqarud-Daulah remained in office for ten or twelve years and the royal affairs were managed skilfully by him. After Zulfaqarud-Daulah's death disputes arose in consequence of contentions and disagreements among the nobles of the state. Sindhia paid his respects to His Majesty in the environs of Agra and the royal favours were conferred on him. Although he did not keep his promise to transfer half the *topkhana*¹ of Zulfaqarud-Daulah to the King's service and to leave Akbarabad in His Majesty's hands yet he was not neglectful in supplying the expenses of His Majesty.² Sindhia then turned his attention towards Jaipur. The Maharaja, Sawai Pratap Singh, agreeably to His Majesty's command, made himself answerable for the amount he used to pay through Zulfaqarud-Daulah. Sindhia not satisfied with this wished to take possession of the territory of Pratap Singh whose house has always been loyal to the throne and on whom His Majesty had himself bestowed the *tika*³ of *raj*. This conduct of Sindhia was not proper and what was to happen came to pass. After the defeat of Sindhia's troops Ghulam Qadir Khan, in conjunction with some troops of the Sikhs demonstrated his disloyalty. Although His Majesty directed Sindhia, who was then in the neighbourhood of Alwar⁴, to come to him and punish Ghulam Qadir Khan yet Sindhia

¹ P. artillery.

² Sindhia had agreed to pay Rs. 1,30,000 a month for the royal expenses.

³ A round painted spot, or a patch of gold or metal placed on the centre of the forehead as an ornament, a sectarian distinction, or a mark of high rank; conferring the *tika* upon a subordinate or feudatory chief is the privilege and indication of supremacy.

⁴ State in Rajputana.

1788

did not comply, nor did he pay the money stipulated for the royal expenses. After this, troops from various quarters arrived and Ghulam Qadir Khan was somehow turned out. Sindhia reached Rewari,¹ with the intention of seeing His Majesty and sent Ambaji² to attend on him. Notwithstanding his delay it was His Majesty's intention that Sindhia should come and join the royal army with a view to punishing Ghulam Qadir Khan. At this time the Prince (Jahandar Shah) came to Akbarabad, joined Ismail Beg Khan and sent Raja Himmat Bahadur to summon the other Rajas. His Majesty asked Sindhia through Ambaji Rao to stay where he was until the Prince had had an audience with the King and after that he might act as he pleased. As Sindhia's troops could not wait he was compelled to go towards Akbarabad and, after suffering a defeat at the hands of Ismail Beg Khan, crossed the river Chambal³. Says that the Governor-General is aware of the present disposition of the chiefs and knows how they entertain improper ideas. Although his lordship is acquainted with these particulars yet he does nothing to save the situation. Desires that the affairs of the empire should be settled by the Governor-General and the Nawab Vazir. He is therefore asked to send one of his confidants accompanied by one from the Nawab Vazir so that he may learn the secrets of his Majesty's heart. Afterwards a person from the Governor-General with 4 or 5 battalions and 30 or 40 pieces of cannon and another from the Vazir with 4 or 5 battalions and a cavalry should remain with His Majesty in order to strengthen the empire and punish the rebels. Says that if any obstacle comes in the way of the accomplishment of this object he

¹ Town and *tahsil* in Gurgaon District, Punjab.

² Appaji, according to the vol. of translations.

³ A river of Central India and Rajputana, and one of the chief tributaries of the Jumna. It forms the boundary between Jaipur, Karauli and Dholpur on the one side and Gwalior on the other. The Chambal is identified with the Charmwati of Sanskrit writers.

1788

will send one of his confidants to Lucknow to communicate his desire. Asks the Governor-General to write to the Vazir, Mr Ives and Major Palmer to act according to His Majesty's inclination and to arrange the royal affairs in such a manner as will demonstrate to the world the loyalty of the Vazir and the Governor-General towards His Majesty. (OR 176 ; TR 27, pp 237-41, no 167; AR 4, p 475).

Mar. 17. 245. From the Vazir. Encloses a copy of the *shugqa* he received from the King. Hopes that after perusing it he would inform the writer of his sentiments so that a reply may be sent accordingly. (OR 177; TR 27, pp 241-2, no 168 ; AR 4, p 491).

Mar. 17. 246. *The King to the Nawab Vazir.* To the same effect as no 244 above. (OR 178 ; TR 27, p 242, no 168 ; AR 4, p 491).

Mar. 17 247. From the Nizam. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter informing the writer of his return to Calcutta after inspecting the various military stations of the Company. Hopes to hear from him now and then. (OR 179; TR 27, p 242, no 169 ; AR 4, p 242).

Mar. 17. 248. From Mir Muhammad Husain, Company's *rakil* at Hyderabad. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter accompanied by one for the Nizam. Says that the Nizam enjoys good health and is gone out of the city on a hunting excursion. The Governor-General will learn the other news of this quarter from the enclosed newspaper. The Nizam had sent Mons. Aumont to purchase muskets from Pondicherry but the Governor of that place refused him permission to do so and wrote to the Nawab that he had orders from Europe not to sell arms to people of this country. Mons. Aumont will shortly return. As it is not possible to obtain reliable information about events and the correspondence of the neighbouring chiefs without

1788

the assistance of some local man, he has employed with effect from the month of February 1788, a person with reliable sources of information. The selected person is on intimate terms with the *vakils* at this (the Nizam's) durbar. Transmits a paper with news items written by that man. For his services he demands Rs. 200 a month—Rs. 100 for himself and Rs. 100 for contingencies. Hopes the Governor-General will sanction this expenditure. (OR 180 ; TR 27, pp 243-5, no 170 ; AR 4, p 480).

Mar. 17. 249. *Paper of intelligence from the court of Hyderabad from 7 to 18 Rabi II (17 to 28¹ January 1788 A. D.).* Manmohan Rao Pangalia whose estate had been given in *jagir* to the Princes (the Nizam's sons), left Hyderabad secretly. Now he has reached his estate and has collected a party for strengthening his possession. Padam Singh and other chiefs have been appointed to punish him. It is learnt from the '*arzi* of Mahabat Jang,² Governor of Raichur³, that Tipu Sultan has sent 20,000 sepoys on a secret expedition. Measures are therefore taken to guard Raichur. Two camel-drivers from Seringapatam report that Bahadur Khan and Hafiz Faridud-Din⁴ who were sent with presents from the Nizam to Tipu have fulfilled their mission and are returning. They have

¹ 15 to 26 January, according to the vol. of translations.

² Mahabat Jang, Dara Jah, was the son of Basalat Jang, brother of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. After his father's death he was appointed Governor of Adoni. In 1786 when Tipu Sultan invaded the place Mahabat Jang withdrew from there and retreated across the Tungabhadra. He was later appointed Governor of Raichur and during the third Mysore war joined with the British forces. He defended the district gallantly and fought bravely against the Mysore army in the battlefield of Koppal, a hill-fort and town in Raichur District, Hyderabad.—*Bellary District Gazetteer ; Poona Residency Correspondence*, Vol. III.

³ Town and taluk on the Kistna Tungabhadra doab in Hyderabad State.

⁴ Hafiz Faridud-Din was sent to Tipu's court to negotiate an offensive and defensive alliance with Mysore. Tipu however suggested that the political alliance should be strengthened by a marriage alliance between the two families and the negotiation fell through. The Hafiz was later appointed Governor of Gurameonda where he was taken prisoner by Tipu's son and was later put to death.

1788

arrived in the neighbourhood of Sira¹ with one elephant and 7 horses sent by Tipu. It is learnt that Bimbaji the younger brother of Mudhoji Bhonsla, is dead. It is reported that the ministers of Poona have demanded the *chauth*² for the *parganas* of Aurangabad which has been for a long time due from 'this' government and also that they have sent troops towards Hindustan to the assistance of Sindhia who has met with a defeat there. These troops have collected their provisions from the Nizam's *mahals* and their *vakils* have therefore been warned not to do so again without permission. It is reported that the English army has been mobilised in the vicinity of Gingee³ and Chanderi (Chandragiri⁴) in Madras in order to fight against Tipu. The shroffs of the mint of Aurangabad had put into circulation 80 lakhs of deficient rupees which were below the fixed standard. They were summoned before the Nizam and asked to make good the deficiency. Accordingly six lakhs were put down to the account of the shroffs and five lakhs to that of the *talukdars*. Qadir Khan Karora had been dismissed from office for his failure to pay the stipulated revenue in time. None has been appointed to his place so far. Negotiations are going on with Husamud-Daulah⁵. It is said that the Nizam will return from his hunting excursion to his capital on 22 *Rabi II* (1 February 1788 A. D.). (OR 181 ; TR 27, pp 243-5, no 170 ; AR 4, p 480).

¹ Town in Tumkur District, Mysore.

² S. assessment equal to one-fourth of the actual Government collections demanded by the Marathas from princes of India as the price of forbearing to ravage their countries.

³ Rock fortress in South Arcot District, Madras.

⁴ Town and taluk in North Arcot, Madras, with hill-forts, the last refuge of the Vijayanagar kings.

⁵ Husamud-Daulah, Muinul-Mulk, was the son of Husamud-Daulah and grandson of Jafar Ali Khan who commanded the army of Salabat Jang. He was *Arzbegi* or master of the ceremonies to Nawab Nizam Ali Khan from 1790 to 1795 when he was dismissed for suspected complicity with Ali Jah. He died at Hyderabad in 1807 at the age of 54 leaving 4 sons and one daughter.—I. R. D. : *Foreign Miscellaneous Record*, No 129.

1788

Mar. 17. 250. *Prince Jahandar Shah to Colonel Briscoe.*¹ Informs him that he and his party have arrived in the neighbourhood of Farrukhabad and intend to proceed on. Asks the Colonel to detail two companies as before to guard and protect his tents and to transmit the writer's *shuqqa* to Mr. Ives.

In the Prince's hand. The closest friendship exists between him and Lord Cornwallis. It is surprising therefore that the addressee did not come to pay his respects to him. Asks him not to act contrary to the established custom. (*OR* 182 ; *TR* 27, p 247, no 172 ; *AR* 4, p 486).

Mar. 17. 251. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Has despatched a letter from the Nizam in answer to that from his lordship. The Nizam has returned from hunting and is now at Goleonda². As the ladies of his family frequently go out for a walk round the fort, the chiefs and ministers get little opportunity to pay their respects to him. Other particulars will be known from the enclosed newspaper.

Intelligence from Hyderabad from 18 Rabi II to 5 Jumada I (28 January to 14 February 1788). Bahadur Khan and Hafiz Faridud-Din, who had gone to Tipu, paid their respects to the Nizam on the evening of 27 *Rabi II* and presented an elephant, two *chatrs*,³ one horse, nine trays of cloth with jewels sent by Tipu and also four trays of *khilats* and one of jewels which were sent to Intiazud-

¹ Horton Briscoe (1741-1802). Major General Commanding 1st Bengal European Regiment. Born 1741. Sailed for India 2 January 1763. Entered Bengal Army as Cadet the same year. Ensign 25 August 1763. Lieutenant 15 April 1764. Captain 28 July 1766. Resigned the service August 1766. Readmitted the same year. Comdt. G.G.B.G. 27 January 1777 till 6 April 1778. Major 25 February 1778. Appointed to command a Bn. of Sepoys 4 April 1780. Lt. Col. 4 Dec. 1781. Col. 19 January 1788. Comdg. at Chunar in 1790. Comdt. 4th Brigade at Cawnpore in 1793. Major General 20 Dec. 1793. Appointed to command at Barrackpore 30 May 1796. Comdt. 1st Bengal European Regt. in Apr. 1799. Died Calcutta 25 Dec. 1802 aged 61. Hodson: *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

² Fortress and ruined city in Atraf-i-balda District Hyderabad.

³ *Chatr*. P. an umbrella.

1788

Daulah, Mushirul-Mulk. Tipu enquired of Bahadur Khan and Hafiz Faridud-Din as to why the Nizam was so neglectful of his affairs as to permit the Marathas to annex his country, and the English to deprive him of Rajah-mundry¹, etc. He further added that if the Nizam had no heads or brains, let him say so and he (Tipu) would recover these places from them for the Nizam. A *harkara* who went with these people says that these ambassadors were admitted to audience after waiting for a week. On the first day of audience Tipu gave them each 100 *huns*² and one meal. On their taking leave he gave them each 100 *adhelis*³ and about 100 tolas of silver with two horses. A proposal was made for the marriage of the Nizam's son with Tipu's daughter but it was not agreed to by Tipu. Mons. Bischel who came from Pondicherry has been ordered into confinement. Mons. Middee's security has not been accepted. He is closely watched: the cause is not definitely known. It is suspected that he sent intelligence and took away a plan of the fort of Golconda. The *'arzi* of the Governor of Raichur mentions that 10,000 of Tipu's men have arrived in the neighbourhood of Pulhary⁴. (TR 27, pp 245-47, no 171; AR 4, p 480).

Mar. 18. 252. To Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. Intimates that Babu Sarabjit Singh, who waited on the Governor-General, has been granted permission to return to Benares. (CI 20, p 34, no 39 ; AR 4, p 525, no 68).

Mar. 18. 253. To Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. Has received his letter saying that he has always been regular in the payment of his *malguzari*⁵ to the Company but this year

¹ Subdivision in Godavari District, Madras.

² H. A pagoda, a gold coin current in the South of India usually about 50 grains in weight, but of different standard and value, according to the place where coined: the *hun* of star pagoda of the Company's currency, was intrinsically worth 7s. 5d. but was rated in the public account at 8s.

³ H. adheli, half a silver rupee or eight annas.

⁴ Probably Bellary, town and districts in Madras.

⁵ P. land revenue; rent paid in money; the paying of rent and taxes; the state of a renter; assessed land.

1788

owing to the distressed condition of his zamindari due to famine he could not pay the instalment for *Magh* and that in consequence he has been put in confinement by the Collector (of Burdwan). The Raja has therefore requested that permission might be granted to him to proceed to Calcutta to enable him to represent his case personally to the Governor-General. Says in reply that the Raja must on no account come to Calcutta until he has discharged his *qist* for *Magh*. (CI 20, p 34, no 40; AR 4, p 527, no 69).

Mar. 19. 254. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Sends him the newspapers of Delhi for his information. (OR 183).

Mar. 19. 255. News from the Royal Court, Camp Rewari, dated Monday 17 Jumada I (25 February 1788 A. D.). Today it was represented to His Majesty that Baghel Singh¹ was going away as he had not received his allowance. His Majesty sent word to him to have patience and directed him to ask the Raja of Jaipur to see him (the King). He then observed that the *jamadars*² were pressing their *risaldars*³ for pay and the latter would demand it from His Majesty. So he desired Mirza Akbar Shah⁴ to examine the accounts and see how much was due to them. Those present replied that during seven months they had been paid (in all) Rs. 14-1 per head. Raja Himmat Bahadur and Khanazad Khan then came in. Yusuf Ali Khan submitted the newspaper concerning Prince Jahandar Shah and Ghulam Qadir Khan and said that the Prince was marching towards Jalesar⁵. The King after perusing it remarked that the man who could not agree with his parents was not likely to get on well with others. The Prince parted with Ghulam Qadir Khan

¹ Sikh chief. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 9, f. n. 7.

² P. an officer of police, customs or army; chief or leader of any number or persons.

³ P. commander of a troop of horse.

⁴ Son and successor of Shah Alam.

⁵ Town in Etah District, U. P.

in anger and proposed to go to Mahadaji Sindhia after leaving his family and dependants at Farrukhabad. Raja Himmat Bahadur observed that His Majesty was right. It was written in the newspaper that Ghulam Qadir Khan had brought the good guns from the fort of Aligarh to his camp and had sent his old guns in their place. Yusuf Ali Khan represented that Ghulam Qadir Khan had despatched nine keys and nine *nazrs* for his Majesty on the occasion of the capture of Aligarh. The King said that Ghulam Qadir Khan was a braggart and would take his own time in sending the *nazrs*. Meanwhile Mian Ikram, the durwan, announced that the Raja of Jaipur, Daulat Ram¹ and others had arrived. They were shown in. Bahadur Singh, Chief of Jhalawar², who accompanied the Raja, presented a *nazr* of 5 *ashrafis*. The *vakil* of Radha Ram, Chief of Sheopur³, paid his respects and presented 11 *ashrafis* on behalf of his principal with an *'arzi* and also paid 1 *ashrafi* on his own behalf. The King had a private talk with the Raja of Jaipur for half an hour. After that, Bhimraj Bakhshi⁴ and others joined them. The King rebuked them saying that they were always talking of some thing new but never settled a single question finally. They said that they were then going to their tents for a consultation and then they would either make Najaf Quli Khan submit to His Majesty or they would drive him away from Gokalgarh. The Raja of Jaipur and others then came out. Raja Himmat Bahadur said to the King, "I had no idea that the Raja of Jaipur was such a liar and that he would pay nothing to Your Majesty. Before this he used to say that if I (Himmat Bahadur) could bring Your Majesty here he would perform every service due to you, but now he says that he had never asked the King to come. The fault is mine. If

¹ Minister of the Raja of Jaipur.

² State in Rajputana.

³ District and town in Gwalior State, Central India.

⁴ Bakhshi Bhimraj or Bhim Singh commanded 5000 mercenary Naga musketeers of Maharaja Bijai Singh of Jodhpur and was sent to assist the Raja of Jaipur in the campaign of Lalsot. J. Sarkar : *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. III.

Your Majesty so pleases, you can put out my eyes or slay me with your sword." Saying this he threw himself at the King's feet. The King picked him up and clasped him in his arms and said, "You had never told me this, although I had sent so many *shuqqas* to you. On the contrary, you brought me here and now covered me with disgrace". Then Raja Himmat Bahadur said something in the King's ears and recommended that Najaf Quli Khan should be invested with the *mukhtari* that is, full powers to manage the royal affairs. His Majesty sent word to Bhimraj to report what settlement he had made. Two hours before sunset Raja Himmat Bahadur took leave of His Majesty.

News from the camp of Sindhia, dated 18 Jumada I (26 February 1788 A. D.). 'Yesterday', Sindhia perused the letters from Raja Ranjit Singh¹, Shah Nizamud-Din,² Malik Muhammad Khan and Mons. Lesteneau. They had written that he (Sindhia) should come to 'this' quarter and that they were ready to serve him. Sindhia consulted Rana Khan³ who said that he must organise his own troops first and then look to other directions and that unless the troops got their pay nothing could be done. Sindhia said that he did not possess sufficient funds to pay them.

News from the camp of the Raja of Jaipur, dated 18 Jumada I (26 February 1788 A. D.). 'Yesterday' the Raja received a *parwana* allotting him a seat in the audience chamber. Accordingly at the private audience he took his seat below the King's chair on the left side and offered nine *ashrafis* as *nazr*. Three hours after sunset he returned, attended a nautch till midnight and then went to bed. In the morning when he came to the tent, where he holds private consultation, Hakim Masha Allah Khan

¹ Raja of Bharatpur. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 391, f. n. 4.

² Agent of Sindhia at the Royal Court.

³ Rana Khan, originally a water carrier, rose to be a principal General in Sindhia's force. He rescued Mahadaji from certain death after Panipat and used to be styled as Rana Khan Bhai.

1788

offered him two cows of gold as a gift from the King. The Raja made his obeisance of acceptance and gave one *doshala*¹ and one *goshwara*² to the Hakim, another *doshala* to his son and five rupees to their attendant.

*News of Ghulam Qadir Khan. Camp Jaitgarh*³, dated 18 Jumada I (26 February 1788 A. D.). Manyar Singh⁴ reported that the horsemen had robbed the standing crops of the village in order to feed their horses. The Khan asked Kallu, the *naqib*⁵, to warn all the *risaldars* against such conduct and posted some men to guard the village. Then he rode towards the trenches of Manyar Singh and ordered Ubaid Khan and other *risaldars* to make an attack as some men of the fort had come outside to bathe. Accordingly 20 horsemen rushed forward and fire was opened on both sides. Ubaid Khan received a bullet wound and Qandahari Khan was also hit by a bullet and fell down on the ground. The men of the fort took away his horse. Two or three others were also wounded and one man was killed. The people of the fort also lost five or six men killed or wounded. Then Ghulam Qadir Khan returned to his tent and made arrangements for the treatment of Ubaid Khan.

News dated Camp Jaitgarh 20 Jumada I (28 February 1788 A. D.). Manyar Singh, Kumedan⁶, showed the Khan (Ghulam Qadir) a letter from Ranjitgir, the *Qil'adar*

¹ P. a pair of shawls.

² P. an embroidered cloth worn as an ornament for the sides of a turban.

³ This appears to be the village Jaitpur situated to the east of *tahsil* Panahat, 50 miles south-east of Agra. At a distance of about 8 miles from here lies the village Kachhaura on the Jumna where Gosain Himmat Bahadur's family lived in 1787. Jaitgarh is mentioned twice in this batch of newspapers only. There is one reference to it in vol. VII of the Calendar (no 574 where it has been read as Chaitgarh or Jitgarh) from which it appears to have been the stronghold of Umraogir Gosain. The location however is not indicated there.

⁴ Commandant under Ghulam Qadir Khan.

⁵ A servant or herald whose business it is to proclaim the titles of his master and to introduce those who pay their respects to him; an adjutant or aide-de-camp.

⁶ Indian corruption of French Commandant. It occurs in Marathi, Persian, Bengali, Assamese, etc.

1788

(of Jaitgarh). It was written therein that Raja Himmat Bahadur was with the King and Umraogir with Ismail Beg Khan and he, the *Qil'adar*, was willing to serve the Khan. If the Khan accepted his services the fort and the houses would be at his disposal. If, on the other hand, he did not require his services he should be allowed to depart with his belongings. Ghulam Qadir Khan replied that he would not allow Ranjitgir to go to Firozabad but that he was free to go to any other place. Accordingly Ranjit was allowed to take out all his belongings from the fort and Manyar Singh escorted him to Kodiaganj.¹ Ghulam Qadir Khan went inside the fort and having posted Manyar Singh's men to guard it returned to histent.

News of the Prince (Jahandar Shah) dated 22 Jumada I (1 March 1788 A. D.). 'To-day' the Prince entered Farrukhabad by the Madar Gate.² Khiradmand Khan came and offered a *nazr* of Rs. 50 to him and Rs. 5 to his son and said on behalf of Nawab Muzaffar Jang that he had arrived all the way from Kanauj³ to welcome him. The Prince replied that he should come in the evening. Then he said that he had spent 2 to 3 lakhs of rupees to bring his family and that he had got the fort of Aligarh evacuated and had made it over to Ghulam Qadir Khan as he himself did not like to reside in that place. Khiradmand Khan then left and the Prince despatched *shuqqas* to Amir-ud-Daulah (Haidar Beg Khan).

News of Mirza Ismail Beg, dated 19 Jumada I (27 February 1788 A. D.). Gul Muhammad Khan, Allah Yar Beg Khan⁴ and Ramru, *Kumedan*, wrote to Mirza Ismail Beg Khan that they were engaged in fighting the Jat (Ranjit Singh). Mir Zulfaqar Ali was ordered to rein-

¹ There is a *mohalla* Kadliyaganj in Jaitpur town Hamirpur District, United Provinces.

² Gate on the south-eastern wall or rampart of the city.

³ Ancient city in Farrukhabad District, U. P.

⁴ A Mughal Chief who remained on Sindhia's side till 1787 when with other Mughal Chiefs he joined Ismail Beg Khan against him.

force them. Banne Singh, *Kumedan*, brother of Ramru, stated that he had captured the '*Amil* and *Potdar*¹ of Mons. Lesteneau and also a *Jamadar* and 5 horses and 1 camel. He was ordered to hand them over to Qalandar Beg, the *Darogha*. Ghaus Muhammad, *Kumedan*, and Banne Singh, *Kumedan* made an application that 106 guns which had been taken from Mons. Lesteneau might be made over to them for equipping their battalions. Kunwar Uttamgir, son of Raja Umraogir² came and Mirza Ismail Beg joked with him and then presented him one Gujrati belt. The Kunwar accepted it and came to his own forces. Then a letter from Gul Muhammad arrived reporting that the troops were starving so that they had no zeal for their work. Ramru's two battalions alone were prepared to fight. But the Jat Raja had large forces with him. Reinforcements must therefore be sent immediately. Alif Khan, son of Sulaiman Beg Khan³, sent a report that the Mughal forces of Jahandar Shah having been dismissed were coming with him. On the 20th, Mirza Ismail Beg, having covered 12 *kos* on horseback, reached Fatehpur. A letter from Akbar Ali Khan arrived saying that Prince Jahandar Shah had reached Firozabad and that he desired to know Ismail Beg's views. Then Gul Muhammad Khan paid him a visit and reported that there was a skirmish between his troops and those of Malik Muhammad Khan. He also stated that Ranjit Singh Jat had told Malik Muhammad Khan that he had paid his expenses so far but he would not pay the Khan any more until he defeated Gul Muhammad. It appeared that Malik Muhammad Khan was willing to transfer his services to Mirza Ismail Beg. The latter replied that he did not believe him. 'To-day' he ordered Najabat

¹ H. a treasurer, a money-changer, a weigher and assayer of coins.

² Raja Umraogir was the elder brother of Raja Himmat Bahadur. On the resumption of Himmat Bahadur's *jaidad* Umrao was granted in perpetuity, a pension of Rs. 1,000 per month on 25 August 1807. He died on 12 January 1809 A.D.—D'Cruz: *Political Relations between the British Government and Native States*.

³ A Mughal Chief who remained on Sindhia's side till 1787 when with several other chiefs he joined Ismail Beg Khan against him.

1788

Khan to stop with Gul Muhammad Khan. Najabat said that unless Mirza Ismail Beg Khan stayed in 'this' district they would not be able to hold possession of it. Ismail Beg replied that he would first subjugate Dholpur¹ and then turn to consolidate his position in these parts. (OR 184).

- Mar. 19.* **256.** From Rao Anant Ram, brother of Raja Gobind Ram. Informs him of the death of his brother, Raja Gobind Ram, on Thursday 27 *Jumada* I (6 March 1788 A. D.). Encloses an *arzi* from the widow of his brother. Hopes his lordship will provide the means of subsistence for the writer and the other dependants of the deceased. (OR 185 ; TR 27, pp 247-8, no 173 ; AR 4, p 459).
- Mar. 19.* **257.** From the widow of Raja Gobind Ram. To the same effect as the foregoing, adding that she is in a miserable plight and looks to his lordship and Nawab Asafud-Daulah for support. Refers him to Rao Anant Ram, the brother of her late husband, for further particulars. (OR 186 ; TR 27, p 248, no 174 ; AR 4, p 471).
- Mar. 19.* **258.** From Nasirul-Mulk, son of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Complimentary. (OR 187 ; TR 27, pp 248-9, no 175 ; AR 4, p 484).
- Mar. 19.* **259.** To Bhim Singh², Rana of Udaipur. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, pp 35-6, no 41 ; AR 4, p 545, no 71).
- Mar. 19.* **260.** To Nawab Dil Diler Khan. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, pp 36-7, no 42 ; AR 4, p 530, no 72).
- Mar. 19.* **261.** To Rai Dip Chand. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 37, no 43 ; AR 4, p 531, no 73).
- Mar. 19.* **262.** To Abbas Quli Khan, brother of Nawab Shuja Quli Khan. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, pp 37-8, no 44 ; AR 4, p 523, no 74).

¹ State in Rajputana.

² Rana of Udaipur (1778-1828). During his reign Udaipur was exposed to frequent inroads of the Marathas. In 1817 the Rana acknowledged the supremacy of the British who agreed to protect him.

788

- Far. 19. **263.** To Ghulam Qadir Khan. Is surprised to learn from the Resident of Lucknow that some mischievous persons are scheming to disturb the frontiers of the Nawab Vazir. In view of the Nawab's friendly relations with the Khan, desires the latter to see that no such designing persons are allowed to pass from his side to the territories of the Nawab Vazir. (*CI* 20, p 38, no 45 ; *AR* 4, p 533, no 75).
- Far. 19. **264.** To Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 207-8, no 203 ; *AR* 4, p 529, no 76).
- Far. (19)¹ **265.** *Dastak* granted to—————² who is proceeding from Calcutta to Benares with articles of food and clothing as well as with certain commodities for Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed not to molest him for tolls and duties. (*CI* 20, p 208, no 204).
- Far. 20. **266.** From the Peshwa (Madhav Rao Narayan³). Acknowledges the receipt of his letter intimating his return to Calcutta on 16 *Safar* (27 November 1787 A. D.) after inspecting the various military stations of the Company. Is anxious to hear from his lordship now and then. (*OR* 188 ; *TR* 27, pp 249-50, no 176 ; *AR* 4, p 487).
- Far. 20. **267.** From Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 189 ; *TR* 27, p 250, no 177 ; *AR* 4, p 484).
- Far. 22. **268.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Says that he has written in detail to Mr Ives regarding the Prince's return to Farrukhabad. (This letter is so badly worm-eaten that nothing more can be made out of it). (*CI* 20, pp 38-9, no 46 ; *AR* 4, p 552, no 81).

¹ The date is not forthcoming.

² The name of the grantee is illegible.

³ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 5, f. n. 12.

1788

- Mar. 19. **263.** To Ghulam Qadir Khan. Is surprised to learn from the Resident of Lucknow that some mischievous persons are scheming to disturb the frontiers of the Nawab Vazir. In view of the Nawab's friendly relations with the Khan, desires the latter to see that no such designing persons are allowed to pass from his side to the territories of the Nawab Vazir. (*CI* 20, p 38, no 45 ; *AR* 4, p 533, no 75).
- Mar. 19. **264.** To Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 207-8, no 203 ; *AR* 4, p 529, no 76).
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- Mar. 20. **266.** From the Peshwa (Madhav Rao Narayan³). Acknowledges the receipt of his letter intimating his return to Calcutta on 16 *Safar* (27 November 1787 A. D.) after inspecting the various military stations of the Company. Is anxious to hear from his lordship now and then. (*OR* 188 ; *TR* 27, pp 249-50, no 176 ; *AR* 4, p 487).
- Mar. 20. **267.** From Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 189 ; *TR* 27, p 250, no 177 ; *AR* 4, p 484).
- Mar. 22. **268.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Says that he has written in detail to Mr Ives regarding the Prince's return to Farrukhabad. (This letter is so badly worm-eaten that nothing more can be made out of it). (*CI* 20, pp 38-9, no 46 ; *AR* 4, p 552, no 81).

¹ The date is not forthcoming.

² The name of the grantee is illegible.

³ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 5, f. n. 12.

1788

- Mar. 24.¹ 269. To the King. Has received his royal *shuqqa* communicating particulars of the disorder and confusion now prevailing in the royal affairs and commanding him to send troops for his assistance. His Majesty has also asked him to send his suggestions for the regulation of the Imperial affairs. Greatly appreciates the honour His Majesty has done him by placing his confidence in the writer at such a crisis, but regrets his inability to assist him in as much as the rules of conduct prescribed by his superiors preclude him from interfering in the royal affairs. Professes, however, his loyalty and allegiance to the Throne. (CI 20, pp 39-40, no 47 ; AR 4, p 537, no 78).
- Mar. 24.² 270. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Forwards a copy of the above letter No. 269. (CI 20, pp 40-1, no 48 ; AR 4, p 552, no 79).
- Mar. 25. 271. *Ahalya Bai*³ to Jonathan Duncan. Requests exemption from duties for Sridhar Bhat and his followers who are going on a pilgrimage to Benares. (OR 190 ; TR 27, pp 250-1, no 178 ; AR 4, p 459).
- Mar. 25.⁴ 272. To the King of Trengganu⁵. Sends back his *wakil* with some presents for the addressee. Refers him to Captain Light for particulars. (CI 20, pp 41-2, no 49 ; AR 4, p 551, no 80).
- Mar. 26. 273. From Tegh Ali Khan, Zamindar of Saran⁶. Represents that he pays the Company's revenue for *pargana* Manjhi, in *sarkar* Saran. From 1191 to 1194 *Fasli* (1784—87 A. D.) Jagmohan Ray, who is in charge of this *sarkar* has every year exacted more money from him than the stipulated revenue either in the form of bribe or on the

¹ March 21, according to the vol. of abstracts.

² March 21, according to the vol. of abstracts.

³ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 12, f. n. 3.

⁴ March 21, according to the vol. of abstracts.

⁵ State in Malay Peninsula.

⁶ District in Patna Division, Bihar.

false plea that the revenue has been increased by Government. The writer keeps an account of receipts, disbursements and balances which will show the amount of the legal revenue and the excess realised by Jagmohan. He has sold several villages belonging to the writer. This year 1195 *Fasli* (1788 A. D.), the entire *sarkar* has heavily suffered from inundation. It is an old custom that if the revenue is enhanced by order of the government the zamindar pays it, and he gets a remission if there is a fall in his income. All the zamindars have been granted remission on account of floods this year with the exception of the writer. Hopes, therefore, that the Governor-General will investigate the matter or depute an *amin* to settle this business. Since the commencement of the Company's rule none has been so much oppressed as the writer. Lala Debi Dat, the writer's *vakil*, will pay his respects to his lordship and will represent the full particulars. (OR 191 ; TR 27, pp 251-2, no 179 ; AR 4, p 491).

274. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Encloses the copy of newspaper from the west, dated 27 *Jumada I* (6 March 1788 A. D.). (OR 192 ; TR 27, p 252, no 180 ; AR 4, p 458).

275. *Intelligence*¹, dated 27 *Jumada I* (6 March 1788 A. D.). Khwaja Husain advised the Prince (Jahandar Shah) to stay for two or three days at Farrukhabad instead of going to Lucknow. The Prince may return to Benares, either by land or by water, and have his affairs regulated by the English gentlemen. The Begam, who came with the Prince from Shahjahanabad (Delhi), is of opinion that all matters should be cleared up with the Nawab Vazir and then the Prince should act according to what may appear advisable. The Begam also sent a verbal order to Nawab Akbar Ali Khan² to urge the Prince to dismiss Khwaja Husain and others with whom the Vazir is displeased. In short, the Prince is awaiting answers.

¹ Received from Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares.

² He was the maternal uncle of Prince Jahandar Shah.

1788

to the different *shuggas* which he has written to the Vazir and other Chiefs. The King is displeased with the Raja of Jaipur for not supplying money to His Majesty and has ordered the Raja to leave for Jaipur. The appointment of Najaf Quli Khan in place of the Raja is only delayed till the arrival of Nawab Nazir¹. When Nawab Nazir arrives Najaf Quli Khan will be honoured with the *khilat*. There is no good understanding between the King and Ghulam Qadir Khan who is also on unfriendly terms with Ismail Beg Khan and there is every likelihood of their falling out. Patel Sahib (Mahadaji Sindhia) is awaiting the destruction of either of them so that he may seize the late Najaf Khan's possessions. The Raja of Karauli² has sent an agent to Patel Sahib but there has been no settlement yet. Karauli is still being overrun as before. Shah Nizamud-Din and Ranjit Singh Jat, under the instructions of Patel Sahib, are employed in devising ways and means for Ismail Beg's ruin. Their respective forces are confronting each other and news of an engagement is expected any moment. (OR 193 ; TR 27, pp 252-4, no 180 ; AR 4, p 458).

Mar. 26. 276. From Kishan Chand Ray, son of Raja Debi Parshad. Represents that in recognition of his father's services an allowance of Rs. 500 was granted to his elder brother, Raja Gauri Parshad, by the Company. On his elder brother's death the allowance was continued to the writer's nephew, Ganga Parshad. Ganga Parshad also died leaving behind many dependants whom the writer has to support. The writer has duly put in his claims in the *khalisa* to be recognised as the heir of his deceased nephew. He has also produced his witnesses and genealogy in support of his case. The enquiries have now been concluded and orders are expected to be passed soon. As he is the nearest kinsman of the late Ganga Parshad, hopes that the Governor-General will issue an order to Mr Shore and the gentlemen of the Committee that some

¹ Manzur Ali Khan. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 165, f. n. 1.

² State in Rajputana. Manik Pal was the Raja.

allowance may be settled for the writer. Requests that his lordship will also direct Mr Meyer¹ to record the name of the writer in place of the deceased. (OR 194 ; TR 27, pp 254-5, no 181 ; AR 4, p 476).

277. From Lala Shambhunath, *gumashta* of Raja Bachhraj. Represents that he has paid the amount of bills and the interest thereon at the rate of 8 per cent according to his lordship's order. But the Treasurer demands an interest of 12 per cent. The writer always paid at the Company's rate of 8 per cent. The interest on the bills drawn from Surat² was also calculated at this rate. Is ready to comply with the Governor-General's wishes. According to the Company's rate there is no outstanding balance against the writer. Hopes that the Governor-General will issue an order to the Treasurer to calculate the interest at the rate of the Company and to return the bills. (OR 195 ; TR 27, pp 255-6, no 182 ; AR 4, p 463).

278. From the Peshwa. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter intimating that the Governor-General is shortly going out on a tour. The writer has come to learn of his lordship's wisdom and foresight from the letters of Lala Sewak Ram and the representations of Lala Chaman Lal³. Requests frequent letters. Refers him to Lala Sewak Ram for further particulars⁴. (OR 196 ; TR 27, pp 256-7, no 183 ; AR 4, p 487).

279. From Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 197 ; TR 27, p 257, no 184 ; AR 4, p 484).

¹ George Charles Meyer joined Bengal Civil Service in 1783 ; Third Assistant to the Preparer of Reports, Revenue Department in 1785 ; Acting Preparer of Reports, Revenue Department in 1787 ; Superintendent of Opium manufacture and Preparer of Reports, Revenue Department in 1789 ; Superintendent of Police, Calcutta in 1791.—Dodwell and Miles : *Bengal Civil Servants*.

² Town and district in Bombay.

³ *Vakil* of the Peshwa.

⁴ Evidently this letter was received before no 266 above but was delivered in the Persian Office on March 26, according to the endorsement on the cover.

1788

- Mar. 26.* **280.** From Faizullah Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Thanks him for his sincere friendship. Requests frequent letters. (*OR 198 ; TR 27, pp 257-8, no 185 ; AR 4, p 469*).
- Mar. 26.* **281.** From Saadat Ali Khan, brother of Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Complimentary. (*OR 199 ; TR 27, p 258, no 186 ; AR 4, p 489*).
- Mar. 26.* **282.** From the widow of Raja Gobind Ram. Reminds him of her previous *arzi* and the verbal representations made through Lala Bhawani Parshad. Now requests the continuance of her deceased husband's *jagir* to enable her to pay his debts and support his family. Solicits an employment for her husband's brother (Rao Anant Ram), who will carry out the commands of the Nawab-Vazir and the Governor-General. (*OR 200 ; TR 27, pp 258-9, no 187 ; AR 4, p 471*).
- Mar. 26.* **283.** From Saiyid Muhammad Khan, Sher Jang. Informs him about the repeated *shuqqas* from the King and the Prince inviting the writer to attend on them. Is not inclined to comply with their request for reasons he has already explained to his lordship at Allahabad. But the Prince has ordered the writer to bring with him elephants and cloth worth two or three thousand rupees. Requests a *dastak* for two elephants and the cloth which he intends to send to the Prince. (*OR 201 ; TR 27, pp 259-60, no 188 ; AR 4, p 490*).
- Mar. 26.* **284.** From Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. Transmits in English, the full particulars of his zamindari and requests the Governor-General to issue such orders as may serve to relieve the distress of the ryots and facilitate the payment of the revenue of the Company. (*OR 202 ; TR 27, p 260, no 180 ; AR 4, p 464*).
- Mar. 26.* **285.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Says that he has transmitted to his lordship the news received from the west. Some time ago the writer had sent to the Governor-General the copies of letters written

by the writer and Mr Duncan to the Raja of Nepal¹. Now he has received answers to those letters. The writer has sent them unopened to Mr Duncan who is at Jaunpur making settlements. Did not accompany Mr Duncan on his tour as he was not asked to do so. Dated 7 *Jumada* II (16 March 1788). (OR 203 ; TR 27, p 263, no 191 ; AR 4, p 458).

Mar. 26. 286. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Reminds him of his previous *arzi* communicating the purport of the letters of the Raja of Nepal in answer to those addressed by Mr Duncan and the writer. The letters were sent to Mr Duncan at Jaunpur.² That gentleman has now returned them. Transmits them to his lordship through Mirza Ali Naqi Khan. Mr Duncan desires to see the writer to discuss some important matters relating to Jaunpur. In spite of his ill health and scanty leisure he has decided to leave for Jaunpur 'today', 19 March 1788. Will represent to his lordship further particulars on his return. (OR 204 ; TR 27, pp 260-1, no 190 ; AR 4, p 459).

Mar. 26. 287. *The Raja of Nepal to Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares.* Acknowledges the receipt of two friendly letters one from him and the other from Mr Duncan, delivered by *Paramhans*³ Gosain Puranpuri. Those letters and the representations of Gosain made the writer happy at heart. Thanks him for this mark of friendship. Desires to hear from him now and then. (OR 205 ; TR 27, pp 261-2, no 190 ; AR 4, p 458).

Mar. 26. 288. *The Raja of Nepal to Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares.* Has long wished to correspond with him and is therefore extremely pleased to receive his friendly letter through *Paramhans* Gosain Puranpuri who has also represented to him verbally the many excellent qualities of the Khan. Requests more letters. (OR 206).

¹ *Vide* letter no 7.

² Town and district in United Provinces.

³ S. an ascetic of the highest order, a religious man who has subdued all his senses by abstract meditation.

1788

- Mar. 26.* **289.** From Maharaja Harendra Narayan Bhup of Cooch Behar. Represents that owing to the collusion of Mr Duncanson and Gulab Singh *Subadar*, the writer and his mother experienced ill treatment from the treacherous people (the Nazir Deo). The rebels plundered the *rajbari*, seized all that it contained and plotted to kill the writer and his mother. Timely help of the Company's troops saved their lives. Complains against the conduct of Mr Duncanson. On account of the country being flooded the writer has to borrow money to pay the revenues to the Company. Has no resources to pay Mr Duncanson's salary. He has employed a *subadar* and some sepoyas as guard for the *rajbari*. Says that Mr Duncanson has lent money to the writer's dependants and has extorted from them a sum in excess of the rate of interest allowed by the Company. Will write more fully about the conduct of the gentleman in his next letter. Sristidhar and Jankiram, the writer's *vakils*, will represent full particulars to his lordship. Dated 28 *Phagun*, year 278. (*OR* 207¹⁻⁸ ; *TR* 27, pp 263-4, no 192 ; *AR* 4, p 467).
- Mar. 26.* **290.** From the mother of Harendra Narayan, Raja of Cooch Behar. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 209²⁻¹⁰ ; *TR* 27, pp 264-65, no 193 ; *AR* 4, p 467).
- Mar. 26.* **291.** To Nawab Shuja Quli Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 208-9, no 205 ; *AR* 4, p 543, no 85).
- Mar. 26.* **292.** To Munni Begam. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 209-10 , no 206 ; *AR* 4, p 543, no 86).
- Mar. 26.* **293.** To Babu Manohar Das. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 210-11, no 207 ; *AR* 4, p 543, no 82).
- Mar. 26.* **294.** To Bahar Ali Khan, eldest son of Nawab Mubarak-ud-Daulah. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 211, no 208 ; *AR* 4, p 544, no 84).

¹ OR 208 is the Persian translation of OR 207 which is in Bengali,

² OR 210 is the Persian translation of OR 209 which is in Bengali.

ar. 27. **295.** From Prince Jahandar Shah. Has made a halt at Nanamau¹ on his way to Benares and has sent Akbar Ali Khan to Lucknow to enquire about the health of the Nawab Vazir. Some days ago the writer wrote a *shugqa* to the Governor-General but received no answer. Asks him to write a letter.

In the Prince's hand. Longs to see the Governor General. (OR 211 ; TR 27, pp 265-6, no 194 ; AR 4, p 486).

ar. 27. **296.** To Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Offers condolence on the death of his brother, Bimbaji Bhonsla. (CI 20, pp 211-12, no 209 ; AR 4, p 541, no 88).

ar. 27. **297.** To Beniram Pandit. Has received his letter. Says that agreeably to his request exemption from the payment of pilgrim taxes at Gaya has been granted to Bhawani Pandit and his 3,000 followers. (CI 20, pp 42-4, no 50 ; AR 4, p 525, no 90).

ar. 27. **298.** To Bhawani Pandit. Has received his letter intimating that he has arrived at Benares and that he now proposes to set out for Gaya. (The remaining portion of the letter is badly worm-eaten). (CI 20, pp 44-6, no 51 ; AR 4, p 527, no 91).

ar. 27. **299.** *Dastak* granted to Bhawani Pandit who is going on a pilgrimage with his companions and followers. They are carrying with them articles of food and clothing. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, and *chaukidars* and others from Benares to Gaya are directed to let them pass unmolested. (CI 20, p 212, no 211).

Mar. 27. **300.** To Babbu Begam. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter. Says that Mr Cherry has communicated to him the subject of her conversation with him at Murshidabad. (CI 20, p 212, no 210 ; AR 4, p 527, no 89).

¹ This old village of Nanamau stands on the bank of the Ganges in Cawnpore District at a distance of 4 miles from Bilhaur. In early days the ferry at Nanamau was largely used as on it lay the direct route from Lucknow to Farrukhabad.

1788

Mar. 28. **301.** From the Vazir. Sends some fruits through Fazl Ali and hopes that the Governor-General will accept them. The following is the list of fruits sent :—

5 maunds of pomegranates.

575 pears.

150 baskets of grapes.

1 maund and 30 seers of pistachio nuts and raisins.

30 seers of plums.

1 maund of apricots.

5½ seers of dried grapes.

(*OR 212 ; TR 27, p 266, no 195 ; AR 4, p 492*).

Mar. 31. **302.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Says that the affairs of the state are as before and the Nizam is enjoying himself. He is now desirous of having a garden near his palace and orders have been given to bring timber from Nirmal¹ by dismantling the house of Zafarud-Daulah² deceased. Five months ago the writer forwarded jewels and cloth from the Nizam to Mr Sadlier, for transmission to the Governor-General but has not heard whether they have been delivered to him. Encloses a newspaper Dated 6 March 1788.

(*OR 213 ; TR 27, pp 366-7, no 196 ; AR 4, p 480*).

Mar. 31. **303.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Forwards news of Hyderabad court from 6 to 30 *Jumada I* (14 February to 9 March 1788 A. D.). The Nizam goes daily on horseback to see the construction of the fort. As Qadir Khan,³ *Karora* of Hyderabad, did not pay the balances, he was imprisoned and was replaced by Husamud-Daulah, who has taken the *taahud* at an increase of 7 lakhs of rupees annually. While on his hunting excursion the Nizam received a letter from Tipu which displeased him. The

¹ Taluk, town and fortress in Adilabad District, Hyderabad State.

² Zafarud-Daulah Ibrahim Ali Beg, commonly called Dhonsa, was one of the most powerful nobles of the Nizam's government. He built the celebrated old fort at Jagtial town in Karimnagar District Hyderabad State. He died in about 1780.

³ His appointment as *Karora* was confirmed by the Nizam on 26 January 1785.—*Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII., no 30.

men who came from Tipu were detained and four messengers from there were sent to Tipu. The Maratha *vakil* has demanded the arrears of *chauth* from this (the Nizam's) government. The Maratha troops are making the collections in Aurangabad.¹ On this account a report has spread that they have marched into the country. It is reported that Sindhia after his defeat in Hindustan has sought assistance from the English and a detachment from Poona, under the command of Holkar, is on its way to reinforce Sindhia. On the confiscation of his ancestral *jagir* in Bidar² district Manmohan Rao Pangalia left Hyderabad in a huff without permission, reached his own estate and collected a force to oppose the government troops. The forces sent against him have not come to grips with him as yet and he is well fortified in his place. (OR 214 ; TR 27, p 267, no 196 ; AR 4, p 480).

Mar. 31. 304. From the Nawab Vazir. Deputes Tafazzul [Husain Khan³ to wait upon his lordship as the writer's *vakil*. Hopes to hear from him now and then. (OR 215 ; TR 27, p 267, no 197 ; AR 4, p 492).

Mar. 31. 305. From Raja Kalyan Singh.⁴ Says that in the case⁵ of Ahmad Husain and Khaliq Bakhsh Khan *versus* Raja Bhawani Singh,⁶ the appellant defendant, it was decreed on 26 July 1787 that the appellant defendant should receive the sum of Rs. 70,530-13-6 from the plaintiffs with interest calculated at the rate of 8 per cent and that whatever sum shall have been received as profit from the taluk in question shall be paid back by

¹ City in Hyderabad State, capital of the Deccan under Aurangzeb.

² District and town in Gulbarga Division, Hyderabad State.

³ Tafazzul Husain Khan was deputed to Calcutta as the *Vakil* of Nawab Vazir in 1788. He returned to Lucknow with the Governor General, Sir John Shore, in 1797 and the same year was appointed *Naib* to the Vazir. He died on 1 March 1801 A. D.

⁴ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 3, f. n. 3

⁵ This appears to refer to the case in which *parganas* Saressa and Bissara were mortgaged by Abdush Shakur to Raja Bhawani Singh and Shaikh Ahmad Husain put in a claim to the possession of these *parganas*. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, no 621.

⁶ Brother of Raja Kalyan Singh.

the appellant defendant with interest at 8 per cent from the time of receipt to the date of final adjustment of accounts. Now the Judge of Darbhanga¹ has sent to the Governor-General the accounts of the gross receipts of the revenues which the farmers have collected² from the *mufassal* (the mortgaged *mahals*). Represents that his brother, Bhawani Singh, has not received the sum stated in those accounts. Mr J. Champain³ has inserted in the decree the accounts of what the writer's brother has collected from the commencement of this business (the mortgage) up to the present time. The writer's brother has not received a rupee more than that. Says that it is not the custom of this place to credit the collections by the farmers in the *mufassal* to the account of the mortgagee of a property. Has written this for the information of the Governor General. (OR 216 ; TR 27, pp 268-9, no 198 ; AR 4, p 476).

Apr. 1. 306. From Murar Mahadeo.³ Says that there are three zamindars of *Qila* Mayurbhanj⁴ who do not pay the revenue and create disturbances when it is demanded. The Nawab (Rajaram Pandit) sent troops to punish them but they absconded to Jaleswar.⁵ The Collector of Midnapore and Mr Wodsworth⁶ were informed in writing that these zamindars should neither be protected nor permitted to stay in Jaleswar. The latter replied that he was then on a visit to Rajghat⁷ and he could not therefore interfere in matters relating to Jaleswar without an order from his lordship. Requests that his lordship will be pleased to issue orders to the Resident of Midnapore and to Mr Wodsworth that they should not afford protection to the said zamindars. (TR 27, pp 269-70, no 199 ; AR 4, p 482).

¹ District and town in Patna division, Bihar.

² J. Champain, Member, Calcutta Committee of Revenue.

³ Murar Mahadeo also called Murar Pandit was the *Faujdar* of Balasore.

⁴ Tributary state in Orissa.

⁵ Town and *parjana* in Balasore.

⁶ He was Resident at the Balasore factory from 1782 to 1791 when he died.

⁷ Ferry on the Subarnarekha near Jaleswar in Balasore District, Orissa.

1788

- Apr. 1. **307.** To the Prince (Jahandar Shah). Acknowledges the receipt of his letter and refers him to Mr Ives for particulars. (This letter is badly worm-eaten). (*CI* 20, pp 46-7, no 52 ; *AR* 4, p 546, no 93).
- Apr. 1. **308.** To Mirza Muhammad Ismail Beg Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 47-8, no 53 ; *AR* 4, p 536, no 94).
- Apr. 1. **309.** To the brother and the widow of Raja Gobind Ram. Offers condolence on the death of the Raja. (*CI* 20, p 213, no 212 ; *AR* 4, p 533).
- Apr. 2. **310.** Papers delivered by the *vakil* of Nawab Mubarak-ud-Daulah (concerning certain items of allowance discontinued from the date mentioned, which the Nawab wanted to be restored).

Court charity from the beginning of February 1785 A. D. (*Phagun* 1192 Bengali) at the rate of Rs. 519-6-0 per mensem . Rs. 6,232-8-0

Allowance for the dak of Akbarabad (Agra) from the above date at the rate of Rs. 1,332-6-0 per mensem Rs. 15,986-4-0

Allowance for light in the *Imambara* from 1192 Bengali (1785 A. D.) at the rate of Rs. 214-5-6 $\frac{3}{4}$ per mensem Rs. 2,572-2-9

Customary presents of fruits from the year 1192 Bengali (1785 A. D.) at the rate of Rs. 250 per mensem Rs. 3,000-0-0

TOTAL . Rs. 27,790-14-9

(*OR* 217 ; *TR* 27, pp 270-1, no 200 ; *AR* 4, p 479).

1788

Apr. 2.

311. From the mother of Raja Radha Nath, Zamindar of Dinajpur. Represents that his lordship is fully acquainted with her difficulties and those of her son, Radha Nath. The oppression and injustice which the writer experienced from the people of Mr Hatch¹ cannot be described. In the year 1193 Bengali (1786-7 A. D.) Mr Hatch was appointed Collector. He set aside the *sanad* of a fixed settlement which had been granted by the Government and exacted a *qistbandi*² in writing from Janki Ram,³ the writer's brother and the manager of her son's affairs. Says that although they paid the revenue till the month of *Katik*⁴ (Oct.-Nov. 1786 A. D.) Mr Hatch dispossessed them of their zamindari and appropriated the sum of Rs. 1,37,770 on the pretence of a rise in the *batta*.⁵ He made out a balance of Rs. 1,13,000 against Janki Ram. Thereupon the writer ordered Janki Ram to proceed to Calcutta. Janki Ram after great exertions borrowed money from the *mahajans* and paid the outstanding dues of the Company and then petitioned the Council against Mr Hatch. The case was referred to the *adalat* for inquiry. Both the parties submitted their papers to the office but though a whole year has since elapsed justice has not yet been done. In 1194 Bengali (1787-8 A.D.) that gentleman (Mr Hatch) appointed a person named, Ram Kanta, to be the manager of her son's estates without consulting the writer.

¹ George Hatch. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p. 71, f. n. 1.

² P. settling for payment (of the revenue, or taxes, or a debt) by instalments; payment (of the revenue, etc.) by instalments; an obligation for the discharge (of a debt, etc.) by instalments.

³ Janki Ram Singh was the brother of Rani Saraswati, who on the death of her husband, Raja Baidyanath, adopted Radha Nath and obtained a *sanad* from the Company in his name. During Raja Radha Nath's minority Janki Ram managed the zamindari till June 1787 when having failed to pay the revenues he was removed to Calcutta where he died in about 1790.—*Dinajpur District Gazetteer*.

⁴ H. 7th Hindu solar month corresponding to October-November.

⁵ H. difference or rate of exchange. In revenue matters it applies to the amount added to, or deducted from, any payment according to the currency in which it is paid as compared with a standard coin. Discount on uncurrent or short-weight rupees. A cess or charge imposed to make up for any probable deficiency in the value of the coin.

The whole country is now ruined and the ryots have left. Moreover, the said gentleman has exacted Rs. 80,000 from the ryots on the plea of new levies like *chakla kharch*¹, *salami*² and *batta* deficiency charges, etc. In consequence of the present scarcity and the dread of Mr Hatch no one can go to Calcutta to report these matters to his lordship. Says that her son is quite young ; her brother, Janki Ram, the manager of his estates is at Calcutta and Mr Hatch is in every respect the master of this place and does what he pleases. That gentleman has now set out for Calcutta with the intention of getting Ram Kanta re-appointed to the management of the zamindari for the year 1195 Bengali (1788-9 A. D.). Says that when Mr Hatch had previously nominated Ram Kanta to this position she repeatedly protested that she was not satisfied with him. Mr Hatch extends the terms of Ram Kanta's appointment to serve his own interest. Hopes that the Governor-General will honour Janki Ram with the management of the zamindari of her son. Sadanand,³ who is an old servant stationed at the *sadr*, will submit an application for a *band-o-bast* of the zamindari for this year. Hopes that the Governor-General will grant it. Assures him that good security will be provided and *qists* will be paid regularly. (OR 218 ; TR 27, pp 271-4, no 201 ; AR 4, p 468).

Apr. 2. **312.** To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his several letters. (CI 20, pp 213-14, no 213 ; AR 4, p 522, no 97).

Apr. 3. **313.** From Ahmad Ali Khan. Thanks him for his letter of condolence on the death of the writer's son. (OR 219 ; TR 27, p 275, no 203 ; AR 4, p 459).

¹ Expenses of the whole *chakla* or district charged in proportion to each ryot under the old revenue system of Bengal.

² P. a present or offering on receiving a lease or settling for the revenue.

³ Sadanand Ray, *vakil* of the Raja of Dinajpur.

1788

Apr. 3.

314. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter accompanying some fruits sent by him through Shaikh Fazl Ali. Offers thanks. (*CI* 20, p 48, no 54 ; *AR* 4, p 552, no 98).

Apr. 4.

315. From Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. The Governor-General had ordered the writer to wait upon his lordship after paying the *qist* for the month of *Magh* (Jan.-Feb. 1788 A. D.). Is always ready to obey the orders of the Governor-General. Represents the sad condition of his estate and says that if the collections are made with severity, the ryots will be ruined and the Company too will suffer a loss. Has by great exertions raised two lakhs of rupees by loan and by collection from his estate and has deposited the sum at the Burdwan Treasury and has set out to see his lordship. Requests a little more time to pay up his dues. (*OR* 220 ; *TR* 27, pp 275-6, no 204 ; *AR* 4, p 464).

Apr. 7.

316. To Harendra Narayan Bhup, Raja of Cooch Behar. Intimates that he had deputed Messrs Mercer¹ and Chauvet² as Commissioners to conduct a local enquiry into the disputes that have arisen in the family of the Raja. Says that he is most anxious to settle his family affairs and that he will take suitable steps in that direction on receipt of the Commissioner's report. (*CI* 20, p 49, no 55 ; *AR* 4, p 529, no 118).

¹ Lawrence Mercer entered the Bengal Civil Service in 1773. In 1788 he was deputed with Mr John Lewis Chauvet to Cooch Behar in order to conduct a public enquiry into the family disputes of the Raja of that place. In December of the same year he was appointed Collector of the district of Burdwan. He died in 1791.—*Bengal: Past and Present*, Vol. XIV, Jan.-Jun. 1917.

² John Lewis Chauvet entered the Company's service as a writer in 1780. In the following year he became Examiner in Secretary's office, General Department. In 1783 he was promoted to the office of the Secret Examiner. He was appointed Resident at Jaleswar in 1786 and was sent in charge of a mission to Cooch Behar in 1788. He died on August 15, 1794, at the age of 54, when he was Judge and Magistrate of the district of Shahabad, Bihar.—Dodwell and Miles: *List of Bengal Civil Servants* ; *Bengal: Past and Present*, Vol. XXVIII July- December 1924.

88

- nr. 8.* **317.** From Hari Bhadar Pandit. Says that troops were sent under Bhawani Chaudhri¹ to punish a zamindar of Mayurbhanj who had been guilty of disobedience and contumacy. Bhawani Chaudhri reports that the ryots of that part of the country have fled to Midnapore and Jaleswar. Requests that a letter may be written to the Collectors of Midnapore and Jaleswar asking them not to permit the ryots of Cuttack² to stay within their jurisdictions. (*TR* 27, *p* 276, *no* 205).
- pr. 10.* **318.** From Haidar Beg Khan. Has sent through Mr Ives *hundis* for six lakhs of rupees payable by the Vazir to the Company for the month of February. The *hundis* have been issued by the house of Raja Bachhraj and Kashmiri Mal. In case these are not approved by his lordship, the writer has transmitted additional bills from other bankers for the same amount payable at sight. Requests that the Treasury Officer may be directed to accept payment in any of the two sets of bills according to his choice. Refers him to Mr Ives's letter for particulars of these bills. (*OR* 221 ; *TR* 27, *p* 277, *no* 206; *AR* 4, *p* 473).
- pr. 10.* **319.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Has already informed him how he went to Jaunpur to see Mr Duncan at the latter's request and how he stayed with him there for about a week. Mr Duncan wants the writer to see him again at Mirzapur³ and the Khan accordingly intends to set out for that place shortly. Dated 27 March 1788. (*OR* 222 ; *TR* 27, *pp* 277-8, *no* 207 ; *AR* 4, *p* 458).
- pr. 10.* **320.** From Udwant Chand, Jagat Seth. Acknowledges the receipt of his kind letter in answer to the writer's *arzi*. Requests more letters. (*OR* 223 ; *TR* 27, *p* 278, *no* 208 ; *AR* 4, *p* 459).

¹ An officer of Mudhoji Bhonsla, probably the same as Bhawani Dadu.

² Town and district in Orissa.

³ Town and district in Benares Division, United Provinces.

1788

Apr. 10. 321. From Saiyid Ghulam Muhammadul-Husaini¹, Company's ambassador to Kabul². Informs him about the writer's interview with the King (Timur Shah)³ through Nawab Abdul Latif Khan⁴ towards the end of *Safar* 1202 A. H. (Nov.-Dec. 1787 A. D.). The writer delivered his lordship's *kharita* to the King (of Kabul) who detained the writer for a long period in order to enquire about the Governor-General and about the affairs of 'that' country. The writer spoke about the good qualities of his lordship and the King and his courtiers were much pleased. After that the writer left Kabul. Friendly relations have now been established between the two governments. Refers him to Saiyid Ghulam Naqshband Khan⁵, the writer's brother, for further particulars. Dated 7 *Rabi* I, 1202 A. H. (18 December, 1787 A. D). (OR 224 ; TR 27, pp 278-9, no 209 ; AR 4, p 472).

Apr. 10. 322. Saiyid Ghulam Muhammadul-Husaini to his brother, Saiyid Ghulam Naqshband Khan. The first part of the letter is to the same effect as the foregoing. In the second part the writer requests his brother to send money to defray the expenses of his return journey. Says that the King (Timur Shah) has sent Abdullah Khan Khatak to Nasir Khan Baluch⁶ at the latter's request. Baqir Khan Nawazi and Ismail Khan Ghazak have been

¹ Saiyid Ghulam Muhammadul-Husaini was the son of Shah Abdullah Naqshbandi who was sent by Mr Hastings in 1781 on a goodwill mission to Timur Shah and died near Multan on his return journey to India. In 1787 Ghulam Muhammadul-Husaini was deputed as an ambassador to the court of Kabul. He resigned his post in 1791 and returned to India the following year. *Persian Records in the Imperial Record Department*.

² Capital of Afghanistan.

³ Timur Shah Durrani, Ruler of Afghanistan (1773-93).

⁴ Minister of Timur Shah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 125, f. n. 2.

⁵ Ghulam Naqshband Khan was the eldest son of Shah Abdullah Naqshbandi. He accompanied his father in 1781 on the latter's deputation to Kabul. *Persian Records in the Imperial Record Department*.

⁶ Mir Nasir Khan Baluch, Ruler of Kalat in Baluchistan (1750-93). He accompanied Ahmad Shah in his expeditions to Persia and India, while at home he continuously engaged in the reduction of Makran. A wise and able administrator Nasir Khan was distinguished for his prudence, activity and enterprise. *Imperial Gazetteer of India*

despatched towards Kandahar¹ and Sa'dullah Khan has been posted at Shikarpur². Will write about everything in detail in his next letter. Encloses an *arzi* from himself to the Governor-General. Requests the addressee to deliver it to his lordship and to explain the full particulars to him. Has engaged two *qasids* on Rs. 150 to take this letter to the addressee and will send further news of this quarter through two other *qasids*. Hopes the addressee will see that the *qasids* return quickly. (OR 225 ; TR 27, pp 279-80, no 210 ; AR 4, p 472).

323. From Raja Uttam Chand. Says that his ancestors have long held the offices of *tahvildari*³ etc., of the *kachahri* of Murshidabad and Hooghly in conformity with the royal *farmans*. But the Hooghly offices have not been under him for some time past as he resides at Benares. Requests that his lordship will be pleased to issue orders that his agents may do the work at Hooghly in the same manner as at Dacca and Murshidabad. (TR 27, pp 280-1, no 211 ; AR 4, p 486).

324. To Haidar Beg Khan. Has received his two letters on the subject of the payment of the Company's dues. Is glad to learn that the Khan has now made himself responsible for the punctual payment of the Company's subsidy in future. As for the Khan's observation that the bankers are not likely to make any procrastination about future payments for the sake of their own reputation, the Governor-General says that past experience does not warrant any hope about regular payment by bankers, though he has full confidence in the Khan's assurance. (CI 20, pp 50-2, no 56 ; AR 4, p 534, no 103).

325. From Ghulam Qadir Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. The Governor-General has written that he has learnt from the letters of the Resident at Lucknow that some miscreants want to cause disturbance

¹ Capital of the province of the same name in Afghanistan.

² Town in Sukkur District, Sind.

³ H. the office or duty of a cash keeper; cash or collections.

1788

in the Vazir's country. As the interests of the Vazir^r the Company and the writer are identical, the Governor-General wants the writer to prevent such persons from proceeding to the Vazir's territories through the writer's. Says that in view of the existing amity the writer had taken suitable steps prior to the receipt of his lordship's letter. Hopes that the Governor-General will instruct the officers of those districts to ask for the writer's assistance, whenever it is needed. Requests frequent friendly letters. (*OR* 226 ; *TR* 27, pp 281-2, no 212 ; *AR* 4, p 471).

Apr. 13. **326.** To Haidar Beg Khan. Is sorry to learn from the letter of Mr Ives about the embarrassment of the Nawab Vazir on account of the Prince's allowance. Says that he has always been anxious to relieve the government of the Nawab Vazir of this burden and that he had also discussed this subject with the Khan while the latter was at Calcutta. As a practical step he now suggests a reduction in the aforesaid allowance. Has also written to Mr Ives on this subject. In order further to alleviate the Nawab Vazir's difficulties the Governor-General has arranged for the Prince's residence in the Company's territories instead of the Nawab's country. Hopes that the Khan, who is fully conversant with all the facts, will explain the position to the Nawab and obtain from him a final settlement of the amount¹ to be paid to the Prince. (*CI* 20, pp 52-4 , no 57 ; *AR* 4, p 534, no 105).

Apr. 14. **327.** From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Thanks him for his letter enquiring about the health of the writer and that of his son, Nawab Dilawar Jang². Says that he

¹ This was finally fixed at 3 lakhs a year. *Vide* no 358 below.

² Dilawar Jang was the younger son of Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. During the life time of his father he enjoyed an allowance of Rs. 2,500 per mensem. After the death of his father in 1791 he was granted a pension of Rs. 1,34,400 per annum for the support of his family in consideration of his father's services to the Company. He died on November 19, 1820.—Imperial Record Department: *Miscellaneous Records, Memoranda*, Vol. I.

was indisposed for some days but is now well. Nawab Dilawar Jang has been seriously ill but under the treatment of Dr John Glass¹ he is improving. Hopes that by the grace of God he will recover soon. (*OR* 227; *TR* 27, pp 282-3, no 213; *AR* 4, p 478).

- . 14. **328.** From Lal Behari Kar, Baneshwar Mandal and others, inhabitants of Barabati². Have received an order from his lordship to send grain and rice to Dacca. Submit that at this time of the year they are unable to procure grain and rice. They themselves experience great difficulty in the purchase of their own daily provisions from the bazar. This year they have not been able to send out their sloops and grabs for shortage of grain. (*TR* 27, pp 283-4, no 214; *AR* 4, p 477).
- r. 14. **329.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Is much pleased to receive two letters from his lordship. Says that he continues, agreeably to his lordship's orders, at Hyderabad and employs himself in the discharge of his duties. The Nizam has returned to the town for the celebration of *Nauroz*³. The writer waited upon him and presented his *nazr*. He then saw Nawab Mushirul-Mulk, the Comptroller of Affairs of the State, and discussed several matters with him. The Nawab said that Mr Malet⁴ was striving hard to strengthen the friendly relations with Pandit Pardhan⁵ and to secure his assistance when occasion arose and that similarly another Englishman had been stationed with Mudhoji Bhonsla for the achievement of the same object. He further added that notwithstanding the financial stringency the Company were augmenting

¹ He was an Assistant Surgeon at Murshidabad. Subsequently he became Surgeon at Bhagalpur where he died on 3 August 1822, aged 72 years.

² The site of the English factory at Balesore. It is at present the principal quarter of the town and the residence of some of its wealthiest merchants.

³ *Nauroz* or New Year's Day of the *Fasli* Era as adopted in Hyderabad State.

⁴ Charles Warre Malet. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 75, f. n. 3.

⁵ The Peshwa.

their army at Madras and that Tipu has sent his ambassadors to the King of France and also to this country (Hyderabad). He concluded by saying that all these activities suggested that the English had some important object in view and that it was strange that negotiations with Pandit Pardhan and Mudhoji Bhonsla were made without consulting the sentiments of the Nizam on the matter. The writer replied that the pourparlers held by Mr Malet with Pandit Pardhan related to the treaty previously concluded and not to any new subject. The friendship with the Nizam was too firm to require every minor affair to be reported to him. The strengthening of the military force was merely a precautionary measure. The Nawab then said that if the English were friendly towards the Nizam why did they not pay him the stipulated sums for the (Northern) Circars¹. The writer replied that Guntur *sarkar*, which according to the treaty should belong to the Company, yielded more than what was stipulated for the Circars.

The Nizam after his peace with Tipu attends to nothing but pleasure. Nawab Mushirul-Mulk's sole care is the collection of money even at the risk of ruining the country and the people but the Treasury is still empty. The reports respecting (Manmohan Rao) Pangalia are coming in daily. People are commissioned to punish him but they have done nothing so far.

P. S.—Says that he can negotiate on the aforesaid subjects without the help of anyone else and can secure a satisfactory settlement. (*TR* 27, pp 284-8, no 215; *AR* 4, p 480).

Apr. 15. **330.** From the Vazir (Asafud-Daulah). Has received his lordship's answer respecting the reply to be given to His Majesty's *shuqqa*. A reply will be written to His Majesty on those lines. Transmits to his lordship a copy

¹ The Northern Circars were equivalent to the modern Districts Guntur, Godavari, Kistna, Ganjam and Vizagapatam of the Madras Presidency.

of another *shuqqa* which he has just received. The answer to this will also be given in accordance with his lordship's suggestions.

The King to the Vazir. Says that the Vazir is more than a son to His Majesty. It is long since they met last. Is anxious to see him again. He should therefore repair to Garhmuktesar¹ on the bank of the Ganges where he will have the honour of meeting His Majesty. Awaiting an early reply. (*TR* 27, pp 288-9, no 216 ; *AR* 4, p 492).

331. From Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Requests *dastak* for *Purohit*² Amarnath, servant of the Maharana (Bhim Singh), who is going to Gaya to perform a *sradh*³ ceremony. (*OR* 228 ; *TR* 27, pp 291-2, no 219 ; *AR* 4, p 474).

332. From Adbhut Singh⁴. Represents that on account of the bad conduct of the Gurkhas⁵, who used to be the servants of the Nepal Government, the writer has been dispossessed of his hereditary *raj* of Nepal and he has been residing for some years with Jagraj Kanubhaju at Benares. Had fully represented the particulars of his situation to the English who were inclined to restore him to his *raj* but unfortunately no action was taken in the matter. When the Governor-General visited this quarter (Benares) the writer was desirous of paying his respects to him and representing the particulars of his situation but did not do so, as he was not acquainted with the disposition of his lordship. The writer has been engaged in commerce for some time. Having opened a trade with the country of

¹ Town in Meerut District, United Provinces.

² S. a family priest, one who conducts the domestic ceremonies of a tribe, a household or family. In the south of India it is also applied to the village priest and astrologer.

³ H. Corruption of *Shraddha*, S. The funeral rite or ceremony of offering rice and flowers to the deceased spirits of ancestors or relatives. This is believed essential to the ascent of departed spirits to a world appropriate to the manes. Food and gifts are distributed to the relatives present and the Brahmins assisting on the occasion.

⁴ Adbhut Singh, son of Ranjit Mal, Raja of Bhatgaon, who was expelled by Prithwi Narayan, Gurkha Raja of Nepal, in 1768.

⁵ Ruling race of Nepal.

1788

Lamas (Tibet) he is desirous of extending it to the eastern provinces also. Says that Rai Ram Singh is fully acquainted with the writer's situation and will represent it to his lordship. Has deputed Saligram with an *arzi* from the writer to the Governor-General and hopes his request will be granted. (OR 229 ; TR 27, pp 293-4, no 221 ; AR 4, p 459).

Apr. 16. 333. From Munni Begam. Has heard that there was some trouble between the English and the French but it ended amicably¹. Offers her congratulations in case her information is correct. (OR 230 ; TR 27, p 295, no 223 ; AR 4, p. 481).

Apr. 16. 334. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Submits extracts from the newspapers of 13 and 14 *Jumada* II (22 and 23 March 1788 A. D.) for his lordship's perusal. A battle was fought between Mirza Ismail Beg Khan and Raja Ranjit Singh Jat, which ended to the latter's advantage. Patel Sahib (Mahadaji Sindhia) collected fresh troops and sent them under Rana Khan and Ramji Patel² across the river Chambal. Rana Khan plundered two or three villages and Jiwaji Bakhshi³ was deputed with 5,000 horse to attend the King. Najaf Quli Khan fought a battle with the King, which resulted in many casualties on both sides. Subsequently he waited on the King and was pardoned. Ghulam Qadir Khan appears favourably inclined towards Mirza Ismail Beg Khan. But his friendship is not genuine for he does not allow Mirza Ismail Beg's people to have possession of their own *mahals*. Dated 21 *Jumada* II (30 March 1788: A. D.). (OR 231 ; TR 27, pp 300-1, no 225 ; AR 4, p. 458).

¹ *Vide* no 458 below.

² Rajji Patel, Sindhia's captain, seems to be meant.

³ Jiwaji Bakhshi, also called Jiwaji Dada—a Shenvi Brahmin from Goa, rose to a high rank in Sindhia's service and played an important part in Maratha politics. Later he became one of Daulat Rao Sindhia's principal ministers. He died on January 4, 1796.

335. From Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Says that Nandi Ray, a servant of her late father, Mirza Muhammad Iraj Khan¹, harasses her by prosecuting her in the *mufasssal adalat*² for alleged debts of her late husband. Similarly several other persons embarrass her by false complaints. She has no knowledge of the debts due to Nandi Ray and others. It is humiliating to be subjected to the jurisdiction of the *mufasssal adalats*. Requests that his lordship will be pleased to direct that all suits concerning her should be tried by the Court of Appeals at Calcutta and that no order shall be issued upon her from the *mufasssal adalats*. Formerly Mr Hastings and the Council had exempted her from the jurisdiction of the *mufasssal adalats*. Further submits that her suit against Asa Ali Khan has been decreed in the *adalat* at Calcutta but she has not yet received the amount decreed nor the costs. Mr Burges of the *mufasssal adalat* says that he has received no orders to execute the decree and can therefore take no action. Hopes that his lordship will be pleased to issue an order to Mr Burges to cause the payment of the decretal amount and the costs. In Bihar several zamindars have appropriated to themselves the *mahals* of her *jagirs* paying little or no revenue on the plea of alleged *muqarrari*³ rights. Hopes that his lordship will be pleased to write to the Collectors there to redeem her *jagirs* from the *muqarraridar*⁴ and restore them to her. (*TR* 27, pp. 289-90, no 217 ; *AR* 4, p 485).

¹ Nawab Mirza Iraj Khan was the son of Akbar Quli Khan, Governor of Bhagalpur, during the reign of Farrukh Siyar. Ali Vardi Khan held him in high esteem, took him in his service and married his favourite grandson, Nawab Sirajud-Daulah to the Mirza's daughter, Umdatun-Nisa Begam. After the marriage Ali Vardi Khan further increased the rank and power of the Mirza and raised him to the command of a brigade. After the fall of Sirajud-Daulah he received a pension of Rs. 900 a month from the *Nizamat* and died about the year 1780. *Seirul-Mutakhhirin* ; *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* ; *Press List of Bengal Revenue Records*.

² A. a provincial court of justice, a district court.

³ P. relating to what is fixed. As a revenue term it is applied to a tenure held at a fixed and permanent rate of rent when payable to a proprietor, or revenue when payable to the government.

⁴ P. a holder of a *muqarrari* farm or tenure.

1788

Apr. 16.

336. From Nawab Saadat Ali Khan. At their last interview his lordship was kind enough to accord permission to the Khan to visit him (his lordship) at Calcutta. Says that he will set out in two or three months' time as that would be the proper season for travelling and ships which he has a great desire to see would also be arriving (from Europe) at the time. (*TR 27, pp 290-1, no 218 ; AR 4, p 489*).

Apr. 16.

337. From Bishan Singh¹, Raja of Bundi. Says that some of his servants and dependants are going to the Company's territory in order to perform their pilgrimage. Requests that his lordship will order a passport to be made out for them agreeably to the request of Lala Ram Singh, so that they may perform their pilgrimage with ease. Lala Ram Singh will inform his lordship of the particulars of this quarter. Hopes to be favoured with frequent letters. (*TR 27, pp 292-3, no 220 ; AR 4, p 465*).

Apr. 16.

338. From Kishan Chand Ray, son of Raja Debi Parshad. Says that Ganga Ram, *gumashta*, who had charge of accounts of his estate, has gone to Calcutta and forged a seal in the name of his nephew's widow. He is thus making public the names of the females of the family and thus disgracing the writer. Requests that his lordship will be pleased to issue an order to seize him and to deliver him to the writer so that he may receive an explanation of accounts from him and punish him for his embezzlement as well as for the above-mentioned forgery. (*TR 27, pp 294-5, no 222 ; AR 4, p 476*).

Apr. 16.

339. From Rajnarain Ray². Intimates that he has reached Midnapore and is engaged in the affairs of the Government with Mr Burrowes³. (*TR 27, p 301, no 226 ; AR 4, p 488*).

¹ Ruler of Bundi State (1773-1821).

² *Qanungo* of *chakla* Midnapore.

³ In 1778 Mr C. Burrowes was the Secretary to the Chief and Council of Dacca. In 1788 he was the Collector of Midnapore. In 1794 he was the Judge and Magistrate of Jessore. *I.R.D. Public Press List.*

16. 340. I. *Raja Mahip Narayan to Mr James Grant*¹. Has learnt from his letter that the addressee has appointed a board of arbitrators composed of Kalb Ali Khan, Babu Fath Chand, Ram Chand Pandit and Shankar Pandit with a view to investigating the cases of the arrears of revenue. The writer has also been asked to inform the addressee as to what arrangement he has made for the payment of the arrear and current revenues of the lands held by him in *sarkar* Ghazipur, etc. Says in reply that he has deputed agents at every place to encourage and support the farmers and to promote the interests of the ryots. As regards Sikandarpur, Karanda² and Gaura³ the Raja has issued positive directions to the farmers of those places to see that every bit of land is brought under cultivation and has advanced *taqavi*⁴ to the ryots there for the purpose. Similar instructions have been sent to the *amils* of Chausa, Zamaniah and Narwan to effect improvement in the cultivation and to collect the balances and current dues without undue severity. Zamaniah was hard hit last year and so this year a settlement has been made with the ryots on a reduced *jama*. Chausa has been lying desolate for the last two years due to the oppression of the *amils* and consequently the *jama* has fallen considerably. Husain Ali Khan has been appointed *amil* of Narwan with the concurrence of the addressee and it is hoped that the revenue of that place will be properly collected and that its prosperity will be ensured. The addressee has asked him for the *wasil-baqi* papers of 1189-92 *Fasli*. Regrets his inability to send the papers of 1189 as his *mutasaddis* know nothing about them. The accounts of 1190 and 1191 *Fasli* were made over by Jagdeo Singh⁵ to Ajaib Singh⁶. Accounts of 1192 *Fasli* which

¹ Received as an enclosure from Mr James Grant.

² *Pargana* in Ghazipur District, U. P. Kureed, according to the vol. of translations.

³ *Pargana* in Ghazipur District, U. P.

⁴ A. Loans made to agriculturists for seed, bullocks, or agricultural implements.

⁵ Babu Jagdeo Singh was the *naib* to Raja Mahip Narayan of Benares (1782-4).

⁶ He was *naib* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh from 1784 to 1787

are in the possession of his *mutasaddis* will however be transmitted to him in due course.

II. *Raja Mahip Narayan to Mr James Grant.* Has received his letter stating that whenever any papers or information on any subject are called for, the writer pleads his ignorance throwing the responsibility upon the *naibs* of the previous years, and thus the required information cannot be had. Says that he keeps no secret from the addressee nor has he ever made any excuses. The papers of 1191 and 1192 are with Babu Ajaib Singh. They may be obtained from him through some person. The only person in the service of the writer who is acquainted with the revenue matters is Umrao Singh¹. He will be sent to the addressee in a day or two. His services may be placed at the disposal of the arbitrators, if the addressee so desires. (*TR* 27, pp 295-300, no 224; *AR* 4, p 461).

Apr. 16. **341.** From Sarabjit Singh. Says that he arrived at Murshidabad and stayed there for a week to recoup his health. Has now left that place and is on the move. Will write to him again on reaching his destination. (*TR* 27, p 301, no 227; *AR* 4, p 490).

Apr. 16. **342.** To Raja Tej Chand of Burdwan. To the same effect as no 253 above. (*CI* 20, p 216, no 216; *AR* 4, p 527, no 107).

Apr. 16. **343. Notification.** With a view to preventing any undue advantage being taken by the *sarkars* and others who collect money on behalf of others, the Governor-General in Council directs that whenever any payment is made from the Government offices on any account, the amounts of each specie in which payment is made should be mentioned in a ticket both by the officers issuing them and those receiving the money. (*CI* 20, p 216, no 217).

Apr. 17. **344.** From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter in answer to that of the writer con-

¹ *Mutsaddi* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh.

cerning the Prince. Has learnt from *Mubarizud-Daulah Ghazanfarul-Mulk* Mr Edward Otto Ives *Ghalib Jang* everything communicated to him by the Governor-General and confided his own sentiments to that gentleman who will inform his lordship of them. (OR 232 ; TR 27, pp 312-13, no 229 ; AR 4, p 492).

17. **345.** *Dastak* granted to William Brooke who is proceeding from Calcutta to Burdwan¹. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to accord him all possible facilities on the way. (CI 20, pp 217-18, no 219).
18. **346.** From Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. Send some pomegranates, plums and apricots for his lordship. (OR 233 ; TR 27, p 313, no 230 ; AR 4, p 473).
- . 19. **347.** To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his letter intimating the particulars of his interview with Nawab Nizam Ali Khan and Mushirul-Mulk. From the report of his conversation with Mushirul-Mulk it appears that the Nawab bears some grudge against the English in spite of their long standing and close friendship. Says that it has always been his earnest desire to maintain cordial relations with all the chiefs of Hindustan and particularly with the Nizam. In order therefore to remove any misapprehension that might have taken root in the mind of the Nawab as well as to convince him of the sincerity of the English, the Governor-General intends to depute a faithful and tried servant of the Company (Captain Kennaway²) to the court of the Nizam. Desires the Mir to furnish the Captain on his arrival at Hyderabad with all the information he has in his possession. Desires him also to continue sending news of 'that' quarter as usual. (CI 20, pp 54-5, no 58 ; AR 4, p 541, no 108).

¹ Illegible.

² Sir John Kennaway (1758-1836). For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 430, f. n. 1

1788

Apr. 19. **348.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter together with a copy of the royal *shugqa* which was addressed to the Nawab. Does not think it advisable that the Nawab should accept the invitation of His Majesty to see him at Garhmuktesar, as this action will unnecessarily involve him into a heavy expense. Advises him therefore to intimate in most respectful terms his inability to make his obeisance to His Majesty on account of his present preoccupation in regulating the affairs of his country. The Nawab should also write that he is ever steadfast and loyal to the Throne and that his non-acceptance of the royal invitation should not be construed as lack of attachment and devotion to His Majesty. As a proof of his loyalty and allegiance he can take this opportunity of telling His Majesty how he has made adequate provision for the expenses of his eldest son, Prince Jahandar Shah, despite his own financial embarrassments. (*CI* 20, pp 55-6, no 59 ; *AR* 4, p 552, no 104).

Apr. 19. **349.** To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his letter. Authorises him to pay Rs. 200 a month to the person whom the Mir has engaged as a news-writer and desires him to send the news of 'that' quarter as usual. (*CI* 20, pp 56-7, no 60 ; *AR* 4, p 541, no 109).

Apr. 20. **350.** From the King. As the thirtieth year of his reign begins in the month of *Jumada* I (February 1788 A. D.) he has added the word *Sahibqiran*¹ in the legend of the gold mohurs and rupees. Sends one gold mohur and 4 rupees with the new stamp and desires that his lordship will direct his mints to stamp their coins in the same way. (*OR* 234 ; *TR* 27, pp 313-14, no 231 ; *AR* 4, p 475).

Apr. 21. **351.** From Raja Tej Chand. Complains that the Collector of the district has posted peons at his house and has laid his goods and effects under distraint on account of

¹ P. master of *qiran* or a period of 30 years. Shah Alam succeeded to the throne in 1759 and according to the lunar calculation the 30th year of the reign began in 1788.

the balances for the month of *Magh* (Jan.-Feb. 1788 A. D.). Has never been remiss in the payment of the revenues of the Government. This year on account of the country being flooded and deserted large sums remain due from the ryots. The gentleman of the district directed him not to press the ryots hard for the balances and the writer could not therefore collect the necessary amount. Has already paid Rs. 2,35,000 out of the total demand and promises to pay the balance in a short time. After paying the *qist*, he will wait upon his lordship to represent his distressed situation. (*OR* 235 ; *TR* 27, pp 314-15, no 232 ; *AR* 4, p 464).

23. **352.** From Nusrat Jang, Nawab of Dacca. Reports that a devastating fire broke out in the city (Dacca) towards the end of *Jumada* I¹, 30 *Julus*² (March 1788 A. D.). The Governor-General must have heard about it from the newspapers. The wind spread the flames and no house or bazar escaped this fire. Thousands of houses were burnt down and hundreds of people lost their lives, either by burning or by suffocation. The price of grain which was steadily falling is now rising again for lack of rain. Dated 11 *Rajab*³, 30 *Julus* (19 April 1788 A. D.). (*OR* 236 ; *TR* 27, pp 315-16, no 233).

23. **353.** From Muradud-Daulah⁴. Says that a certain person has unlawfully deprived him of his right to illuminate the tombs of his ancestors. Requests that the right of watching over these tombs and of the property in Motijhil⁵

¹ A. 5th month of the lunar year.

² A. regnal year, accession to the throne.

³ A. 7th month of the lunar year.

⁴ Muradud-Daulah was the posthumous son of Ikramud-Daulah, the younger brother of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah. He was like his father brought up by Nawazish Mahammad Khan, a son-in-law and *Diwan* of Ali Vardi Khan, Nawab of Bengal. Muradud-Daulah died in 1795 A. D.—*Seirul-Mutaakhhirin* ; I. R. D. : *Press List of Public Department Records*.

⁵ Motijhil is the name of a lake and palace at Murshidabad built by Nawazish Mahammad Khan for his residence. The lake is in the old bed of the Bhagirathi in the shape of a horse-shoe while the buildings comprise a stone hall, harem, mosque and out-offices.

that is attached to them may be restored to him. (OR 237 ; TR 27, p 316, no 234 ; AR 4, p 483).

- Apr. 23. **354.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter informing the Nawab that his letter has been forwarded to the Company in England and that if a reply comes from there, the Governor-General will transmit it to the writer. Is perfectly satisfied with what his lordship has done for him. Requests frequent letters. (OR 238 ; TR 27, pp 317-18, no 236 ; AR 4, p 479).
- Apr. 23. **355.** From Babbu Begam. Is happy to receive his lordship's letter desiring her not to be anxious with respect to what Mr Cherry has represented to him about her. Is much thankful to his lordship for the kindness and favour which he shows towards her son, Mubarakud-Daulah. She regards him as a true friend and is convinced that the prosperity and success of his son is his constant care. Hopes his lordship will write to her frequently. (TR 27, p 318, no 237 ; AR 4, p 463).
- Apr. 24. **356.** To Rajaram Pandit¹, *Subadar* of Cuttack. Desires him to apprehend Man Singh Chaudhri and punish him for the outrages he has committed at Jaleswar. (CI 20, p 57, no 61 ; AR 4, p 547, no 111).
- Apr. 25. **357.** From Prince Jahandar Shah. Acknowledges the receipt of his two *arzis* delivered by Mr Ives in answer to the writer's *shuqqa*. Approves of the proposal of the Governor-General fixing Rajmahal for the Prince's residence. Was desirous of bringing about a reconciliation with his 'brother', the Vazir, who is in fact entitled to every kindness and honour. So he repaired unattended to the Vazir's place in the night and as there was really no cause of disagreement between them the Vazir performed all the duties of obedience and friendship as he used to do formerly. Says that it is not possible for him in the present hot weather to travel with his family and dependants con-

¹ Rajaram Pandit was the *Subadar* of Orissa from 1778 to 1793.

tinuously for 10 or 12 *kos* (a day) on his journey to Rajmahal. Desires therefore to stay at Benares until the end of the rains. Is anxious to see his lordship. (*OR* 239 ; *TR* 27, pp 319-20, no 238 ; *AR* 4, p 486).

25. 358. From Prince Jahandar Shah. Represents that he has come to know through Mr Ives that 3 lakhs of rupees annually have been fixed for the writer. Mr Ives represented on his lordship's part that if the amount now fixed proves insufficient then the writer must discharge his superfluous servants. Says that he cannot dismiss his faithful, sincere and old adherents. Does not take into employment any new servants now. Has brought his family with him and so his expenses have increased. Mr Ives has given the writer 25 thousand rupees. Wants to know whether it is on account of the *peshkash* or an extra allowance for travelling expenses. If it is on account of additional expenses it is certainly sufficient; otherwise not. Is perplexed how to use this amount. If he defrays his travelling expenses with it then his servants will receive nothing ; if it is paid to them then there will be no money left for the writer's personal expenses. (*OR* 240 ; *TR* 27, pp 320-1, no 239 ; *AR* 4, p 486).

c. 28. 359. To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Intimates that exemption from duties at Gaya has been granted to Amarnath and one hundred pilgrims. (*CI* 20, pp 57-8, no 62 ; *AR* 4, p 536, no 112).

r. 28. 360. *Dastak* granted to *Purohit* Amar Nath and others who are proceeding on a pilgrimage to Allahabad, Benares Gaya and other places of worship. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed not to demand tolls and duties from them. (*CI* 20, pp 221-2, no 220).

pr. 28. 361. To Raja Bishan Singh. In compliance with his request a *dastak* has been issued for some of his servants to enable them to make their pilgrimage to Gaya and other places. (*CI* 20, p 58, no 63).

1788

- Apr. 28. **362.** To Munni Begam. Informs her that there is at present no prospect of war in Europe. (*CI* 20, pp 58-9, no 64; *AR* 4, p 553, no 114).
- Apr. 28. **363.** To Ghulam Ahmad Khan¹. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter and refers him to Saiyid Ghulam Naqshband Khan for particulars. (*CI* 20, p 59, no 65; *AR* 4, p 533, no 115).
- Apr. 28. **364.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Is glad to learn that the Nawab has appointed Tafazzul Husain Khan as his *vakil* to reside at Calcutta. (*CI* 20, p. 59, no. 66; *AR* 4, p 552, no 116).
- Apr. 28. **365.** Credentials granted to Capt. Kennaway. The Governor-General does fully authorise Capt. Kennaway to reside as his public minister at the court of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan at Hyderabad and to transact all such business as shall be entrusted to him and agrees to approve and confirm whatever may be settled by him with the Nawab. Dated Fort William, April 28, 1788. (*CI* 20, p 60, no 66A; *AR* 4, p 529, no 118).
- Apr. 30. **366.** From Raja Uttam Chand. Has just recovered after eight months' illness. Sends a *nazr* of 5 gold mohurs through his *vakil*, Deekishan Pandit, and hopes that his lordship will accept it. (*OR* 241; *TR* 27, pp 322-3, no 241; *AR* 4, p 486).
- Apr. 30. **367.** From Raja Vir Narayan, Zamindar of Keoramal². Says that Gandharba Das used to be the *naib* of his zamindari during the lifetime of his father. After his death the zamindari *amala* contrived to replace Gandharba Das by Khem Chand Ghosh. Has fallen in arrears to the Government and in debt to the *mahajans* since the latter's appointment. The affairs of his zamindari can never be adjusted without the reappointment of Gandharba Das

¹ This appears to be a mistake for Ghulam Muhammad Khan, younger brother of Ghulam Naqshband Khan.

² *Pargana* in *chakla* Hijili, district Midnapore.

who is sent to his lordship to represent full particulars. (OR 242; TR 27, pp 323-4, no 242; AR 4, p 466).

30. 333. From Raja Tej Chand of Burdwan. Complains that on 18 *Baisakh*¹ (27 April 1788 A. D.) Mr Kinloch and Mr Brooke entered the writer's house and made an inventory of all his goods and effects. On the writer's entreaties they refrained from entering the female apartments. The writer does not know the cause of such disgraceful behaviour of those gentlemen towards him. Deputes Bindraban, his *vakil*, to represent the melancholy particulars of the writer's situation. (OR 243; TR 27, pp 325-6, no 244; AR 4, p 464).
30. 369. From Kishan Kinker, *gumashta* of Baikunthpur, the zamindari of Raikat Darap Deo. Complains that a person, named Lal Singh, took from the writer a bond for Rs. 401 in the name of his friend, Mirza Bahadur Beg, and left 'this' place for Murshidabad after paying to him Rs. 198-8-0 only by instalments. On his return the writer offered to pay back the above-mentioned sum and asked him to return the bond. But he did not agree. After this the writer sent his men repeatedly to Lal Singh with the same offer. He was adamant and at last got a warrant issued against the writer through Mr Wroughton². When the writer was going to pay his respects to his lordship, the peons arrested him. He was released on bail after two days' confinement. As the incident has brought much disgrace upon the writer, requests that his lordship will make an enquiry into the matter. (OR 244; TR 27, pp 328-9, no 247; AR 4, p 466).
- rr. 30. 370. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. It has already been reported to his lordship that in consequence of an order from Mr Duncan he went to pay him a visit at Jaunpur. Later when Mr Duncan arrived at Mirzapur he also saw

¹ H. 2nd Hindu solar month corresponding to April-May.

² Possibly, George Wroughton who was an attorney to the Company and resigned his office in December 1788.

1788

him there and stayed with him for 22 days. Both he and Mr Duncan returned to Benares on 20 March after visiting several other places. (*TR* 27, p 322, no^c 240; *AR* 4, p 458).

Apr. 30. 371. From Rup Narayan Deo¹, Zamindar of *pargana* Chandwa, etc., in Monghyr². Says that for several generations his zamindari in the Jungle Terai district has been in a state of prosperity and that he has been paying its revenue in full to the Government every year. But the Raja of Kharakpur³ (Qadir Ali Khan) out of malice and ill-will now creates confusion and interferes in his affairs. This interference causes a disturbance in the *zila*. The writer has always abided by the plan laid down by Major Browne⁴ and other gentlemen. But he is afraid that if an incident should arise from the Raja's interference, complaints will be made against him. He, therefore, sent his *vakil*, Mukant Ram, with an *arzi* and a copy of his *sanad* granted to him by the Council to represent full particulars to his lordship. Hopes that his lordship will be pleased to send him a *parwana* and a letter of encouragement. (*TR* 27, pp 324-5, no 243; *AR* 4, p 488).

Apr. 30. 372. From Rani Bhawani. Represents that the ryots of this country always received support from the zamindars and consequently they knew that their prosperity and happiness depended on those of the zamindars. But now the destitute state of the zamindars has shaken

¹ Rup Narayan Deo, son of Raja Jagan Nath Deo, was granted the zamindari of *pargana* Chandwa etc. by a *sanad* issued by the Supreme Council on behalf of the Company in May 1776.

² Town and district in Bihar.

³ *Pargana* in Monghyr District, Bihar.

⁴ James Browne (1743/44-1792). Cadet 1765. Ensign 10 November, 1765. Lieutenant 2 May, 1767. Captain 30 June, 1771. Collector of the Jungle Terai district (Santal Parganas) in 1773. To command 14th Bn. Sepoys (formerly 24th) from 1777. Major 19 January, 1781. Appointed Resident at the Court of Delhi 20 August, 1782. Recalled in 1785 when Warren Hastings left for England. Published in 1787 *Indian Tracts*. Lt. Col. 2 February, 1788. Died at Dinapore on 22 June, 1792, aged 58.—Hodson: *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

1788

their confidence. Says that her son, Raja¹ Pan Kishan¹ is going to wait upon his lordship. She relinquishes the zamindari of Rajshahi, etc. together with all the rights appertaining thereto, in favour of her son and makes him the master and proprietor of her estates. She adopted him as her son, about 30 years ago, so that on her death the *sradh* and other religious ceremonies might be performed by him. During the last two years some irregularity has occurred in the payment of Government revenue in respect of her zamindari due to the ruined state of the country. Hopes it will not stand in the way of the recognition of her son's succession. This is the time for cultivation. If her son returns to the district honoured with the zamindari and authority to make his own *band-o-bast*, he can pay the revenue to the Government and perform the duties of obedience and submission. (*TR* 27, pp 326-7, no 245; *AR* 4, p 460).

Apr. 30. 373. *Extract of a letter from Balaji Janardan² to Lala Sevak Ram.* Says that Mr Malet has been deputed to strengthen the relations between the Company and the Peshwa but he does not act according to his professions. He has twice refused presents sent to him. He says that it is not the wish of his lordship that he should accept presents. Such a reply is not courteous. The addressee is therefore asked to represent this to his lordship and request him to give direction to Mr Malet that he should accept whatever may be offered him by this Government, as a present. (*TR* 27, pp 327-8, no 246).

Apr. 30. 374. To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Is aware of the friendship that has so long subsisted between the Company and the Nawab. Says that ever since his arrival in India he has been longing to secure a closer connection between the two governments but has not been able to take any

¹ Raja Ram Kishan was the adopted son of Rani Bhawani and succeeded to the estate on her retirement. He was not regular in the payment of the revenues to the Government. He died in 1796 leaving two sons, Sibnath and Biswanath. *Rajshahi District Gazetteer*.

² Nana Farnavis.

1788

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1788

steps in this direction beyond deputing Mir Mohammad Husain to the Nawab's presence. With a view to fulfilling his long cherished desire, the Governor-General has now selected Capt. Kennaway, a faithful and trusted servant of the Company, to reside at the Nizam's court. The Captain has been granted proper credentials¹ and he will shortly proceed to Hyderabad. Hopes that the Nawab will approve of his selection and will give due consideration to whatever the gentleman may represent. (*CI 20, pp 61-2, no 66 B; AR 4, p 544, no 199*).

Apr. 30.

375. To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Says that ever since he took the control of the Company's administration in India he has consistently followed the principle of preserving their rights inviolate without infringing those of any other power in the land. Agreeably to this principle it was a duty incumbent upon him to claim the district of Guntur for the Company which by virtue of the Treaty of 1768² belonged to them. But considering the friendship subsisting between the Nawab and the Company he did not think it proper to press the claim at a time when the Nawab was engaged in a deadly war (with Tipu) and thereby subject him to additional worries. Now that the war is over and the Nawab enjoys perfect peace of mind, the Governor-General requests the cession of the district of Guntur to the Company without any further delay. Hopes that the Nawab will issue immediate orders to his officers for the restoration of the district to the representatives of the Company at Madras. In advancing the claims of the Company the Governor-General has not overlooked the rights of the Nawab to the tribute to which he is entitled in accordance with the terms of the same treaty of 1768. In order therefore to adjust the subsidy due to the Nawab the Governor-General has deputed Capt. Kennaway to his court. Assures the Nawab that as soon as the adjustment is made all the arrears due to the

¹ *Vide* no 365 above.

² C.U. Aitchison: *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, Vol. IX, pp 28-34.

1788

Nawab will be paid and that arrangements will also be made for the regular payment of his subsidy in future (*CI* 20, pp 62-4, no 67; *AR* 4, p 544, no 120).

Apr. 30. 376. From the mother of Raja Radha Nath, Zamindar of Dinajpur. To the same effect as OR 311 above. (*OR* no. 244).

May. 2. 377. To Nawab Saadat Ali Khan. Has received through his *vakil*, Gokul Chand Chaube, his letter intimating his intention to see the Governor-General at Calcutta. Says that he will be glad to meet the Khan and is anxiously awaiting his arrival. (*CI* 20, p 64, no 68; *AR* 4, p 550, no 121).

May 5. 378. To the Prince. Has received his letter. Thinks at proper to give the Prince an exhaustive and accurate account of the affairs of the Governments of the Nawab Vazir and the Company. As both these governments are closely allied it is always the earnest desire of the Governor-General to promote the well-being and prosperity of the Nawab's government. The Company have undertaken to protect the Nawab against all aggression and in return for this service the latter has engaged to defray the expenses of the English troops that may be stationed in his territories for that purpose. Informs the Prince that on account of past mismanagement the Nawab's finances are in great disorder but, in spite of this, the Nawab, on the representations of the Governor-General, has agreed to fix an allowance of Rs. 25,000 a month for the expenses of the Prince. The financial difficulties of the Nawab are so great now that the Company will be obliged to advance that amount on his behalf to the Prince for several months. On the advice of the Governor-General the Nawab is trying to regulate his finances by effecting strict economy in all the departments of his government. As regards the Company's affairs, their finances are by no means sound, though their revenue is not inconsiderable. Besides the great civil and military establishments of Bengal they are

1788

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obliged to maintain large armies in other parts of India to defend the honour and interests of the English nation against powerful and ambitious neighbours. A huge amount of debt contracted by them during the last expensive war is outstanding against them and they are still exerting themselves to repay it. Under these circumstances it will not be possible for the Company to render any pecuniary assistance to the Prince. Requests him therefore to avoid making any such applications. Cannot omit to mention likewise the situation of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah whose family affairs are also greatly involved. Has suggested to him also to effect retrenchment in all his superfluous expenses and thus enable himself to make decent provision for his family and for the liquidation of heavy debts contracted by him. Has selected Rajmahal for the residence of the Prince on account of its salubrious climate as also for the convenient accommodation of the large number of the retinue that the Prince proposes to bring with him from Delhi. As his sincere well-wisher advises the Prince also to curtail his expenses as far as practicable and to adjust them to the limit of Rs. 25,000 a month. Is grieved to learn from the representation of the Hindus of the insults offered to their religion by the followers of the Prince during their last stay at Benares. As the relations between the residents of that city and the servants of the Prince seem to be strained, it is not advisable for the Prince to stay in that city. Should it be inconvenient for him to move to Rajmahal during the monsoon, the Governor-General can arrange to provide accommodation for him at Sasaram¹ in Bihar for the season. On receipt of the Prince's assent he would direct the Collector of Sasaram to make the necessary arrangements. In reply to the Prince's wish to visit Calcutta, says that as the English nation is not inclined to make further territorial acquisitions in India, the Governor-General has been expressly forbidden by his superiors to interfere in the affairs of their neighbours. So long as these instructions

¹ Town in Shahabad District, Bihar. Birth place of Sher Shah.

1788

stand, it is not advisable for the Prince to take the trouble of coming down to Calcutta for the purpose of conferring with him on the political affairs of Hindustan. Offers constant prayers for his health and prosperity. (CI 20, pp 65-71, no 69; AR 4, p 546, no 122).

May 6. 379. To Rajaram Pandit, *Subadar* of Cuttack. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 222, no 221; AR 4, p 547, no 123).

May 6. 380. To Babu Sarabjit Singh. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 222, no 222; AR 4, p 549, no 124).

May 7. 381. From Ghulam Qadir Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter expressing his lordship's joy at the grant of *khilat* to the writer by the King. Says that after taking leave of His Majesty he has arrived by forced marches at Koil¹ in order to make the settlement of the place. Strives hard for the protection of the countries belonging to the Company and the Vazir which stand contiguous to this quarter. Hopes to hear about his health frequently. (OR 245; TR 27, pp 329-30, no 248; AR 4, p 471).

May 7. 382. From Maharaja Pratap Singh of Jaipur. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter respecting his return to Calcutta from a tour of the Company's possessions. Has informed his lordship about the grant of a *khilat* to the writer by the King in a previous letter. Intends to go to Jaipur after taking leave of His Majesty to celebrate his own marriage with a princess of the family of Maharaja Bijai Singh. Refers him to Rai Ram Singh for further particulars. Hopes for frequent letters. (OR 246; TR 27, pp 330-1, no 249; AR 4, p 474).

May 7. 383. From Saiyid Badrud-Din Ali Khan. Represents that a monthly pay of Rs. 700 was sanctioned to him from the *Nizamat* by Mr Hastings. Desires the continuance of the above-mentioned salary in favour of his sons, Saiyid

¹ Old name of Afgarh.

1788

Bahadur Ali Khan and Shamsud-Din Ali Khan. Requests that the Governor-General will write to Mr Speke on the subject and direct him to procure Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah's sanction also for the continuance of the writer's salary to his sons. (*OR* 247; *TR* 27, pp 331-2, no 250; *AR* 4, p 491).

May 7. 384. From Mahadaji Sindhia. Says that Mr. Hastings sanctioned Rs. 700 monthly from the *Nizamat* of Murshidabad to Saiyid Badrud-Din Ali Khan who is a well-wisher of the Company and a sincere friend of the writer. Recommends that in compliance with the desire of the Khan, the said salary be settled on his two sons. (*OR* 252; *TR* 27, p 335, no 255; *AR* 4, p 490).

May 7. 385. From the Peshwa. Has received the presents sent by the Governor-General through Lala Chaman Lal. Is happy to learn about his lordship's wisdom, prudence and predisposition for amity which were represented by Lala Chaman Lal. Refers him to Lala Sewak Ram for further particulars. (*OR* 248; *TR* 27, pp 332-3, no 251; *AR* 4, p 487).

May 7. 386. From Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 249; *TR* 27, p 333, no 252; *AR* 4, p 484).

May 7. 387. *The Peshwa to John Macpherson.* Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Is sorry to learn of his departure from Calcutta due to ill-health. Prays for his speedy recovery. Hopes that the addressee will inform Lord Cornwallis of the friendly relations of the Company and the Peshwa. Will transmit his letters for the addressee to Lord Cornwallis till the return of the addressee from his sea voyage. Requests frequent letters. (*OR* 250; *TR* 27, pp 333-4, no 253; *AR* 4, p 487).

May 7. 388. From Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 251; *TR* 27, p 334, no 254; *AR* 4, p 484).

1788

May 7.

389. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that Mr Cherry explained to Mir Kamalud-Din Husain Khan the contents of a letter from the Collector of Sylhet¹ respecting the elephant *khedas* and asked for an answer and at the request of the Khan supplied him with the translation of the letter in question. The Collector has written that the *khedas* of the *Nizamat* are a source of detriment to the revenues of the Government and have therefore been discontinued. Is unable to accept this assertion as correct. The *khedas* are, on the contrary, boon to the zamindars, as the cash profit of the *kheda* operations help them to pay the revenues to the Government. The zamindars, in fact, beg that the *khedas* may be continued as before. The *khedas* used to be originally operated at six different places. Those at Patharia² and Barapara³ have been discontinued for some years as the area has been brought under cultivation. At the other four places in *pargana* Bundosil the *khedas* are still continued. On account of the Company's moiety, the Collector of the District has two *khedas* under his charge and the remaining two are managed by the *Nizamat Darogha*. But no loss is caused either to the revenue or to the zamindars. Hopes that his lordship will write to the Collector not to object to the two *khedas* belonging to the *Nizamat* but to let them continue as before. (OR 253-4; TR 27, pp 335-7, no 256; AR 4, p 479).

May 7.

390. From Arjunji Nathji Tewari⁴. Says that everybody enjoys peace and justice during his lordship's administration. Mr Duncan is a competent servant of the Company. He has become well-known all over Hindustan for his solicitude for the ryots. The writer also is an obedient servant of the Company. Lately the Company wanted money at Surat but none of the shroffs whom they approached could supply it till at last the writer found

¹ Town and district in Assam.

² Village and *pargana* in Sylhet under Sunamganj Police Station.

³ *Pargana* in Sylhet District.

⁴ Famous banker.

1788

means to remit the required sum and thus obtained their fullest approbation. For these sums he received bills upon Calcutta which Mul Chand Dube¹ accepted. But although the bills became due long ago yet the money has not been received. The banking business is very delicate as cash must be paid when it becomes due. Requests that the Governor-General will issue an order to his officers for the payment of the money so that the business of the writer's firm may not suffer. (OR 255; TR 27, pp 337-8, no 257; AR 4, p 491).

May 7. 391. From Dil Diler Khan. Says that from the day he came under the protection of the English he has no connection with anybody. His family had long maintained a correspondence with the Nawab Vazir. Seeks his lordship's permission therefore to write now and then to the Nawab. Requests that his lordship will also commend him to the Vazir. (OR 256; TR 27, pp 338-9, no 258, AR 4, p 467).

392. To Saiyid Ali Khan, Nawab of Dacca. Has received his letter. Is sorry to learn of the outbreak of fire at Dacca and of the enormous loss caused thereby to the inhabitants of the town. Offers his sincerest sympathy to the sufferers. (CI 20, p 72, no 70; AR 4, p 530, no 126).

May 9. 393. From Rai Ram Kanta, *Diwan* of the Raja of Dinajpur. Since his appointment as *Diwan* to Maharaja Radha Nath Ray, Zamindar of Havili Pinjra² *pargana* in Dinajpur, he has exerted himself in the extension of cultivation, promotion of welfare of the ryots and punctual payment of the Government revenue. It is necessary that in the *mufassal* the ryots should have confidence in the *zamindars*. Requests therefore that a *parwana* of confirmation may be granted to the Maharaja, who may

¹ *Gumashta* of Arjunji Nathji at Calcutta.

² Old name of Dinajpur.

1788

also be directed to give every encouragement to the writer so that he may attend to his duties with perfect peace of mind. (*OR* 257; *TR* 27, pp 339-40, no 259; *AR* 4, p 488).

May 9. 394. To Raja Vir Narayan, Zamindar of *pargana* Keoramal. Has received his letter. Regrets he cannot nominate Gandharba Das as his *Diwan*. (*CI* 20, p 223, no 223; *AR* 4, p 528, no 127).

May 9. 395. To Ali Ibrahim Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 223-4, no 224; *AR* 4, p 523, no 128).

May 9¹. 396. *Dastak* granted to Lalji Mal Sahu² who is proceeding from Murshidabad to Shahjahanabad. He is taking with him five elephants for the use of His Majesty Shah Alam. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed not to molest the Sahu for tolls and duties. (*CI* 20, p 224, no 225).

May 10. 397. From Bhawani Pandit. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter enclosing one addressed to Mr Law, Collector of Gaya. Has learnt from Beniram Pandit about the exemptions granted to him from the pilgrim duties at Gaya. Has come here with the permission of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla and is glad that his lordship granted him exemption. But it is strange that after his arrival Mr Law went away to Patna without seeing him. His assistant who was left behind, after perusing the Governor-General's letter said that it did not concern the writer but that it concerned Prince Jawan Bakht. The Governor-General will learn all the particulars from the '*arzi*' of Beniram Pandit and the representations of Hari Bhadar Pandit. (*OR* 258; *TR* 27, pp 340-1, no 260; *AR* 4, p 465).

¹ The date is not forthcoming.

² He appears to be the son of Sadanand, a famous banker at Shah-jahanabad and a member of the *Jagat Seth* family.

1788

- May 10.¹ 338. To the Deb Raja² of Bhutan³. Informs him that Messrs Mercer and Chauvet have been deputed to Cooch Behar to settle the disputes that have arisen between the addressee and the Raja of Cooch Behar. (*CI* 20, p 73, no 71 ; *AR* 4, p 531, no 129).
- May 13. 399. To Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. Acknowledges the receipt. of their letter accompanying a present of fruits. (*CI* 20, p p 73-4, no 72 ; *AR* 4, p 535, no 130).
- May 14. 400. From Manohar Das. Says that after performing the religious duties on the death anniversary of his father, the writer was preparing to wait on his lordship when Mr Duncan ordered him to meet the latter at Mirzapur. He (Mr Duncan) wanted to remit money to Surat and Bombay and the writer has made the necessary arrangements. Has now returned to Benares and will soon proceed to pay his respects to the Governor-General. (*OR* 259 ; *TR* 27, pp 341-2, no 261 ; *AR* 4, p 482).
- May 14. 401. From Raja Kalyan Singh. When the writer represented his affairs to the Governor-General at Patna, his lordship was pleased to reply that he would consider his case after his return to Calcutta. Reminds him that he is overwhelmed with difficulties on all sides. Sends Majlis Ram Ray to represent full particulars and solicits his lordship's favour. (*OR* 260 ; *TR* 27, p 343, no 262 ; *AR* 4, p 476).
- May 15. 402. From the Raja of Burdwan. Represents that since the commencement of the Company's rule the assessment for *chakla* Burdwan has increased every year and is now almost double of the revenue assessed during

¹ May 12, according to the vol. of abstracts.

² Deb Raja was the title of the temporal ruler of Bhutan who performed the executive duties of the government while the Dharma Raja was first in rank and nominally first in power. The first person to hold the title of Deb Raja was formerly the *Diwan* or Deputy of the Dharma Raja.—Markham: *Mission of George Bogle to Tibet*.

³ Independent State in Eastern Himalayas.

1788

the regime of Nawab Ali Vardi Khan. In order to clear his dues he borrowed money and even sold his effects and has thus been reduced to poverty. In 1187 Bengali (1780-81 A.D.) Raja Nabakishan¹ was appointed *sazawal* in his *chakla*. He applied every method and collected as much money as he could but failed to meet the demands of the Government. Since the year 1188 Bengali (1781-82 A.D.) the writer has been paying the revenue and has also cleared the balances. But during the current year a severe loss of life and property was caused by inundation due to heavy rainfall and the writer lost to the tune of Rs. 6 lakhs in revenue. Besides, there is a deficiency of 2 lakhs of rupees in the settlement of the present year and his loss therefore amounts to 8 lakhs of rupees. Is unable to pay this amount. Is distressed by the demands and orders of the Collector of the district. Hopes for protection and requests remission of the whole balance outstanding against him. (OR 261; TR 27, pp 343-5, no 263 ; AR 4, p 464).

- May 15. **403.** To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Has received his letter. Congratulates him on the occasion of his receiving *khil'at* from His Majesty. (CI 20, p 74, no 73; AR 4, p 536, no 131).
- May 15. **404.** To Bhawani Pandit. Transmits a letter granting him exemption from the payment of duties at Gaya. (CI 20, p 75, no 74 ; AR 4, p 527, no 132).
- May 15. **405.** To Dil Diler Khan. Has received his letter. Says that he has no objection to the Nawab's corresponding with Nawab Asafud-Daulah. (CI 20, p 75, no 75 ; AR 4, p 530, no 133).
- May 16. **406.** From the Prince. Says that the health of the princes and some of his female attendants has suffered on account of the bad climate ; still he continues his journey as desired by the Governor-General. Has

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 119, f.n. 5.

1788

made a short halt for the present in order to arrange for his transport as his old servants and coolies are not inclined to proceed further with him. Will march towards Sasaram in two or three days in order to take up his residence there. (OR 262; TR 27, pp 345-6, no 264; AR 4, p 486).

May 20. 407. From Rajaram Pandit. Says that ten months ago the writer, agreeably to the orders of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla, went to Nagpur for some consultation and after adjusting every matter in a proper manner he arrived at Cuttack on 1 *Shawwal*¹ (17 July 1787 A.D.). Acknowledges the receipt of his letter desiring the writer to punish Man Gobind Chaudhri who had harassed the Company's peons of the Sheopur *chauki*². Says that he has summoned the offender and assures him that he will be properly punished on his arrival. Has issued positive orders to the *amala* of Kamarda Chaur³ not to suffer anyone to export salt from 'these' parts to the Company's territory in a clandestine manner. (OR 263; TR 27, pp 346-7, no 265).

May 20. 408. From the Deb Raja of Bhutan. Refers to the friendly relations subsisting between the Dharma Raja⁴ and the Company from former times. The present Dharma Raja is a child of tender age. A person was therefore appointed Deb Raja to watch over the affairs of the country. Some time ago that Deb Raja went away to Lhasa for a pilgrimage with the effects of the Dharma Raja. It is learnt now that he does not intend to come back. Therefore on account of the ruinous state of the country the *Lama Gurus* and other ministers who have the power of changing and dismissing the Deb Raja, have

¹ A. 10th month of the lunar year.

² H. station of police or customs; watch guard.

³ *Pargana* in Balasore.

⁴ At the head of the Bhutan Government, there are two supreme authorities; the Dharma Raja, known as Lama Rimboche, the spiritual head and the Deb or Deva Raja, the temporal ruler. Though the Dharma Raja was first in rank and nominally first in power, yet the Deb Raja performed the executive duties of the Government.

1788

bestowed the *khil'at* on the writer and nominated him as Deb Raja. Says that from this year the country is under his control. (OR 264 ; TR 27, pp 347-8, no 266).

May 20 409. To Lala Sewak Ram. Says that Mr Malet's refusal to accept the Peshwa's presents is due to the Company's orders forbidding their servants to accept any present offered to them. (CI 20, pp 77-8, no 77; AR 4, p 547, no 134).

May 21. 410. From Muradud-Daulah. Deputes his *vakil*, Mirza Lutf Ali, with a petition on the subject of the tombs of Ikramud-Daulah¹ and Shahamat Jang, the writer's father and grandfather respectively. Says that a daily allowance of Rs. 6 is fixed for illuminating the tombs and maintaining a *langarkhana*². A certain person has deprived the writer of this allowance. Hopes therefore that it will be restored to the writer. (OR 265 ; TR 27, pp 348-9, no 267; AR 4, p 483).

May 21. 411. From the widow of Raja Gobind Ram. Deputes Bhawani Parshad to represent her distressed situation to the Governor-General. Begg a favourable consideration. (OR 266 ; TR 27, p 349, no 268; AR 4, p 471).

May 21. 412. From Saiyid Khadim Ali Khan. Says that since the commencement of the rule of Nawab Ja'far Khan³ in 'this' country the writer's ancestors have held *jagirs*, offices and important charges. Saiyid Khadim Husain Khan and Nawab Mir Muhammad Ja'far Khan, the writer's father and grandfather⁴ respectively were the fast and sincere friends of the Company. He himself served the English

¹ The younger brother of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah, brought up as an adopted son of Shahamat Jang, who had no son of his own. He died of small-pox in 1752. Datta : *Alivardi and his Times*, p167.

² P. a free kitchen.

³ Better known as Murshid Quli Khan, Nawab of Bengal (1704-25).

⁴ Mir Jafar was not the grandfather of Saiyid Khadim Ali Khan as stated here. Khadim Ali's father, Khadim Husain, was the son of a co-wife of Mir Jafar's sister and on the strength of this relation he (Khadim Husain) used to call Mir Jafar his maternal uncle and so Khadim Ali here refers to Mir Jafar as his grandfather. *Seirul Mutaakhhirin*.

in the company of his grandfather in their wars with Nawab Sirajud-Daulah. The writer's grandfather was nominated *Nazim* of Bengal when the Company came out victorious. He made the writer's father (Saiyid Khadim Husain Khan) *Subadar* of Purnea with an assignment of Rs. 50,000 per mensem thereon. An assignment of Rs. 5,000 on Purnea was given to the writer who also received from his grandfather Rs. 500 a month for personal expenses. Then he (writer) was honoured with the office of the *Darogha* of the musketry of the whole of Bengal with a *risala*¹ of 5,000 horse and foot. The writer was entrusted with the charge of the collection of *zila*² Bishnupur. He enjoyed an income of thousands of rupees monthly. After the death of Nawab Mir Muhammad Ja'far Khan his ministers got the upperhand and deprived the writer of his office. They gave the writer sometimes a monthly allowance of Rs. 500, sometimes less, as they pleased. Then Mr Hastings arrived and fixed the amount at Rs. 500 per mensem. Later, Sir John D'oyly reduced it to Rs. 400 but even this is not paid regularly so that his pension for 7 months from *Katik* 1194 to *Baisakh* 1195 Bengali (October 1787 to April 1788 A.D.) amounting to Rs. 2,800 is in arrears. Learns now from the *Nizam* officers that his meagre allowance will be reduced by Rs. 100. Says that if further reduction is made it will not be possible for him to maintain his 10 sons and about 500 dependants. Solicits his lordship's favour. (OR 267 ; TR 27, pp 349-52, no 269; AR 4, p 477).

May 21. 413. Saiyid Khadim Ali Khan to the Council and the Governor-General. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 268; TR 27, p 352. no 270 ; AR 4, p 477).

May 21. 414. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary. (OR 269 ; TR 27, pp 352, 271; AR 4, p 469).

¹ A. troop of horses.

² A. a division of a province, a district.

May 21. 415. From Kalyan Singh. In the case brought by Shaikh Ahmad Husain and Khaliq Bakhsh Khan against the writer's brother, Bhawani Singh, regarding their taluk, the Judge of Darbhanga has decreed that a sum of Rs. 93,000 is payable by the defendant to the plaintiffs. Says that in his decree the Judge has stated that a sum of Rs. 1,70,000 has been received by Bhawani Singh through his agent, Ghulam Husain Khan, who collected the money from the plaintiffs. But this is not the fact. Ghulam Husain Khan, who has since died, was never employed as an agent of Bhawani Singh. He was only a farmer of revenue. As such, whatever collections may have been made by him cannot be charged against Bhawani Singh. This is a complicated transaction and can be settled only after a thorough scrutiny. Requests therefore that both Mr Law and Mr Brooke may be directed jointly to hear the case, examine the accounts and settle the dispute finally. If the account as given in the decree of the Darbhanga court is to hold good then the writer and his brother will be ruined. (OR 270 ; TR 27, pp 352-5, no 272 ; AR 4, p 476).

May 21. 416. To Muhammad Riza Khan. Informs him that out of the monthly allowance of Rs. 5,000 paid to his sons, Nawab Dilawar Jang and Nawab Bahram Jang² a sum of Rs. 1,200 per month will henceforth be deducted for the maintenance of the family of the late Nawab Ruhud-Din Khan³. (CI 20, p 76, no 76; AR 4, p 542, no 137).

¹ Town and district in Bihar.

² Bahram Jang, Nawab, Umdatul-Mulk, eldest son of Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. He received a monthly allowance of Rs. 2,500 from the Company. Died on 8 December 1787. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII.

³ When war broke out between Nawab Qasim Ali Khan and the English in 1763, Ruhud-Din Husain Khan forcibly took possession of Purnea and subsequently, he was confirmed as *naib* of the district by Jafar Ali Khan. When Muhammad Riza Khan became the *Naib Suba*, Ruhud-Din Husain Khan was pensioned off on Rs. 5,000 a month. Ruhud-Din died on 6 April 1783. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VI, no 893 ; *Purnea District Gazetteer*.

1788

- May 21. 417. To Rup Narayan, Zamindar of Chandwa. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter and says that his *vakil* has been given permission to return. (*CI* 20, pp 224-5, no 226).
- May 22. 418. From the King. Lalji Mal has purchased five elephants for His Majesty and Muhammad Jafar is bringing them. Asks the Governor-General to direct his officers not to offer him any opposition on account of duties, etc. (*OR* 271; *TR* 27, p 355, no 273; *AR* 4, p 475).
- May 22. 419. To Mir Muhammad Husain. Forwards a letter addressed to Nawab Nizam Ali Khan and informs him of the deputation of Capt. Kennaway to Hyderabad. (*CI* 20, p 78, no 78; *AR* 4, p 541, no 138).
- May 23. 420. To Madhav Rao Narayan Peshwa. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 79, no 79; *AR* 4, p 547, no 140).
- May 23. 421. To the King. Says that agreeably to the command of His Majesty a *dastak* has been granted to Muhammad Jafar who is taking the elephants to the Presence. (*CI* 20, p 80, no 80; *AR* 4, p 537, no 139).
- May 26. 422. From Dil Diler Khan. Complying with the orders of Mr Duncan the Khan vacated Shivala¹ on 10 *Shaban*² (17 May 1788 A.D.) in order to make room for the residence of the Prince (Jahandar Shah) and himself removed to a tent in a garden. It will be very inconvenient to live in tents with a family during the approaching monsoon. As no suitable house is available for his residence here (Benares) on less than Rs. 200 a month, requests the Governor-General to direct Mr Duncan to provide one for him. With the permission of Mr Duncan the writer paid a visit to the Prince, who honoured the

¹ A fortress in the city of Benares built by Baijnath Misar. It was the residence of Raja Chait Singh till his rebellion in 1781.

² A. 8th month of the lunar year.

1788

writer with a *khilat*, *dastar sarbasta*¹, *goshwara*², *turra*³, *nimastin*⁴, shawl and a sword. Solicits permission to pay his respects to the Prince now and then. (OR 272; TR 27, pp 356-7, no 274; AR 4, p 467).

May 27. 423. From Diwan Bhawani Pandit. Has arrived at Benares after performing the pilgrimage at Gaya. As the Maharaja (Mudhoji Bhonsla) is anxious for the writer's speedy return, he desires to go to Ajodhya⁵ first, thence he will quickly march towards Nagpur where he will represent all the particulars of his lordship's kindness shown to the writer. (OR 273; TR 27, p 357, no 275; AR 4, p 465).

May 27. 424. From the Vazir. Has written answers to His Majesty's *shuqqas* in the same terms as his Lordship's *arzis* to the King. Mr Ives will transmit them to the King. Encloses copies of his answers for his lordship's perusal. Requests frequent letters. (OR 274; TR 27, p 358, no 276; AR 4, p 492).

May 27. 425. From the Vazir. Received three *shuqqas* from the King, one delivered by Khush Chashm Ali Khan with the present of a *khilat*, the second delivered by Munir Ali Khan *Khawas*⁶ with a present of a *razai*⁷ and the third through Major Palmer delivered by Mr Ives on the subject of the insertion of *Sahibgiran* in the coins. The writer has written answers to them. Encloses copies for his lordship's perusal. (OR 275; TR 27, p 362, no 277; AR 4, p 492).

¹ P. a turban closed at the top.

² P. an embroidered cloth worn as an ornament over the sides of a turban.

³ P. an ornament worn in the turban; an ornamental tassel or border etc, a plume of feathers, a crest.

⁴ P. an upper robe or jacket with half sleeves, often made of gold and silver tissue.

⁵ Sacred city of the Hindus in Fyzabad District, United Provinces. It was the birth place and also the capital of Rama, the popular Hindu deity and hero of the *Ramayana*. The ancient city has almost disappeared now but the place retains its importance as a religious centre.

⁶ A. special or favourite attendants on some great personage.

⁷ P. a quilt, a coloured coverlet.

1788

May 27. 426. *Nawab Asafud-Daulah to the King.* Acknowledges the receipt of his *shuqqa* giving an account of the situation of the royal court since the time of His Majesty's departure from Allahabad to Delhi and inviting Lord Cornwallis and the writer to despatch a confidential agent and troops for the punishment of the rebels and the adjustment of the royal affairs. Says that his father was a sincere servant of the King and remained loyal throughout his life. Similar is the disposition of the writer and the Governor-General and they always pray for the increase of prosperity and health of the King. But the writer at the present moment is unable to send troops to His Majesty for reasons which His Majesty may have learnt from the letters of the Governor-General. (OR 276; TR 27, pp 360-2, no 276; AR 4, p 492).

May 27. 427. *Nawab Asafud-Daulah to His Majesty (Shah Alam).* Acknowledges the receipts of his *farman* desiring the writer to meet the King at Garhmuktesar and to detain a body of troops for his service. Says that the condition of his finances is not satisfactory as the disbursements exceed the receipts. Is already finding it difficult to provide money for the Prince's (Jahandar Shah's) *peshkash* which he has agreed to pay out of regard to his Majesty. Is unable therefore to defray the expenses of the troops to be employed in the King's service. Hopes that His Majesty will always be favourably inclined towards the writer and Lord Cornwallis who are at all times sincere and zealous in their wish to increase the prosperity of the King. (OR 277; TR 27, pp 358-60, no 276; AR 4, p 492).

May 27. 428. *Nawab Asafud-Daulah to the King (Shah Alam).* Offers thanks for the *razai* which was sent to him by His Majesty through Mir Munir Ali Khan *Khawas*. (OR 278 ; TR 27, p 363, no 277; AR 4, p 492).

May 27. 429. *Nawab Asafud-Daulah to the King (Shah Alam).* Acknowledges the receipt of his *shuqqa* containing the joyful tidings of the commencement of the *Sahibqiran* year. Sends 101 gold mohurs as a *nazr* of congratula-

1788

tions and hopes that it will be accepted. (OR 279; TR 27, pp 362-3; no 277; AR 4, p 492).

May 27. 430. Nawab Asafud-Daulah to the King (Shah Alam). Acknowledges the receipt of the *shuqqa* written in His Majesty's own hand accompanying a gift of clothes. Offers thanks for the gift and prays for His Majesty's prosperity. (OR 280; TR 27, p 363, no 277; AR 4, p 492).

May 27. 431. To Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Informs her that the *adalat* regulations are inflexible and that no deviation from them is allowable under any circumstances. (CI 20, pp 80-1, no 81; AR 4, p 546, no 144).

May 27. 432. To Rajaram Pandit, *Subadar* of Cuttack. Desires him to do his best to prevent the Marathas from smuggling salt into the Company's territories. (CI 20, pp 81-2, no 82; AR 4, p 548, no 142).

May 28. 433. From Rajaram Pandit. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter informing him about the deputation of Capt. Kennaway to Hyderabad and saying that he will pass through Cuttack on his way there. Says that the writer will afford every aid to the Captain in his journey to the Chilka Lake¹ and across. Professes to be a sincere friend of the Company. Requests letters now and then. (OR 281; TR 27, p 364, no 278).

May 28. 434. From Babu Sarabjit Singh. When he was at Murshidabad he sent an '*arzi*' to the Governor-General through Azhar Ali Khan. Has now arrived at Azimabad (Patna) and has fairly recovered his health. Intends now to proceed to Benares to see Raja Mahip Narayan. (OR 282 ; TR 27, pp 364-5, no 279 ; AR 4, p 490).

May 28. 435. From Babu Ausan Singh. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Deputes Munshi Patni Mal to re-

¹ A shallow inland gulf situated in the south-east corner of Puri district in Orissa, and in the extreme south extending into the district of Ganjam. On the west and south the lake is walled in by lofty hills while to the north it loses itself in endless shallows. The scenery of the Chilka is very varied and in parts exceedingly picturesque.

1788

present full particulars. Requests his lordship's favour. (OR 283; TR 27, p 365, no 280; AR 4, p 485).

May 28. 436. From Raja Kalyan Singh. Says that the sincere zeal of Maharaja Shitab Ray¹, writer's father, for the Company's prosperity is well known. After the death of his father, the writer was honoured with the *niabat*, the *diwani*², the *mushakara*³ and the *jagir* of *suba* Bihar. He always conducted the affairs entrusted to him with fidelity. Intends to repair to the Governor-General in order to represent verbally the full particulars of his case. Professes to be a loyal servant of the Company and hopes for his lordship's support. (OR 284; TR 27, pp 365-6, no 281; AR 4, p 477).

May 29. 437. To the King. To the same effect as no 429 above. (CI 20, pp 82-3, no 83; AR 4, p 537, no 143).

May 30. 438. To Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Benares. Informs him that Mr Duncan has been authorised to hear all appeals from the *mufassal adalats* of Benares. (CI 20, p 83, no 84; AR 4, p 523, no 145).

May 31. 439. From Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received the Governor-General's letter intimating that Mr Speke has been directed to continue Rs. 2,500 to Dilawar Jang out of the monthly allowance of Rs. 5,000 assigned to the writer's sons, Nawab Dilawar Jang and the late Nawab Bahram Jang, and to divert Rs. 1,200 in favour of Saiyid Muhammad Salih Khan⁴ and the other relations of Nawab Ruhud-Din Husain Khan deceased. Says that the circumstances in which the allowances of his sons were fixed are as follows. When the Company reduced his salary

¹ *Naiib Diwan* of Bihar (1767-73).

² P. Office of the *Diwan*; the right to collect and receive the revenue of a country.

³ A. salary, allowance. In Bengal, a monthly allowance granted to revenue payers and zamindars for collecting the revenue; also a monthly allowance paid to zamindars from the proceeds of their estates when deprived of the management of them on their own behalf.

⁴ Son-in-law of Nawab Ruhud-Din Husain Khan who was the *Amil* of Purnea.

1788

some time ago the writer represented that his sons were grown up men and had families of their own and found it difficult to meet their expenses. It was solely on this ground that the allowance was fixed for his sons. Ruhud-Din Husain Khan was then alive but the writer never suggested that his allowance should be granted to his (writer's) sons. Has however no objection to the present reduction and division of the allowance. Is satisfied with whatever has been fixed for his sons. (OR 285; TR 27, pp 366-8, no 282, AR 4, p 490).

May 31. **440.** From the Prince. Has read his letter stating among other things that he had prevailed on the Nawab Vazir to fix a *peshkash* of Rs. 25,000 monthly for the Prince and desiring him to keep his expenses within that limit and also proposing that the Prince should take up his residence either at Rajmahal or at Sasaram. Says in reply that his wife, children and about 200 attendants are lying ill at the present moment on account of uncongenial climate. He himself has travelled much and can bear the hardships involved but the Begam and the young children who never set foot outside the walls of the fort of Delhi fell an easy prey to the inclemency of the weather. Is unable therefore to move on. Will however resume his march towards Sasaram as soon as monsoon is over. (OR 286; TR 27, pp 368-76, no 283; AR 4, p 487).

May 31. **441.** Enclosures from the Resident at Benares. I. *Paper of requests presented by Mirza Kalb Ali Beg¹ with Mr Markham's² orders thereon.* (1) The people of his district are unruly and military assistance is necessary to keep them under control. Requests that a battalion

¹ Mirza Kalb Ali Beg was the *amil* of Jaunpur and other *mahals*. His total lease for 1787 amounted to ten lakhs. But this amount could not be collected until Mr Neave was deputed to Jaunpur to superintend the recovery of the balances. In 1788 the *mahals* of Jaunpur were directly settled with Sheo Lal Dube, the banker of Kalb Ali. *Jaunpur District Gazetteer*.

² William Markham was Private Secretary to Warren Hastings. In 1778 he was appointed Assistant to the Resident at Benares. From 1779 to 1783 he was Resident at Benares. He died on January 1, 1815. I.R.D.: *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VI.

may be stationed permanently at Jaunpur and directed to assist him when necessary. *Order.* This will be done. (2) In case five or six days delay should occur in payment of the *qist* no *muhassil*¹ or peon may be posted (at his house). *No orders.* (3) As the assessment of his farm has been based on the gross accounts of the year 1189² *Fasli* (1781-2 A.D.) he shall collect the revenue agreeably to (the amount) of last year. *Order.* He may collect the revenue and keep the country flourishing. Let no complaint arise against him. (4) Several talukdars are disobedient and refractory. They do not pay the revenues regularly. He should be authorised to turn them out. *Order.* Defaulters must be punished. But no one should be persecuted on account of personal animosity. (5) When his agents go to collect money most zamindars and ryots refuse to pay and threaten them with knife and poison. How are they to be dealt with? *Order.* Proper action should be taken according to the established procedure. (6) Should any one claim and obtain from the presence (the Resident) any of the taluks or villages farmed out to him (the Mirza) he may be allowed a corresponding deduction from the revenue. *Order.* Deduction will be allowed. (7) In case of natural calamities he expects to be indemnified. *Order.* Justice shall be done after enquiry.

II, III and V. *Grant of farms issued separately under the seal and signature of Raja Mahip Narayan, Messrs Francis Fowke and James Grant, during 1785-7.*

Name of lease holder	Pargana or village farmed	Term of lease	Revenue. Benares sicca rupees
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Mirza Kalb Ali Khan	taluk Gopalapur, pargana Mariahu, sarkar Jaunpur, suba Allahabad.	1193-5 Fasli. (1785-8)	1,65,003 0 0
Do.	taluk Barsathi, pargana Mariahu, sarkar Jaunpur.	Do.	2,22,903 0 0

¹ A collector of revenue; tax gatherer.

² 1179, in the vol. of translations appears to be a mistake.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Mirza Kalb Ali Rhan .	<i>pargana</i> Haveli, Ungli, Rari, Zafarabad, Singramau and various othervillages in Jaunpur.	1193-5 <i>Fasli</i> . (1785-8)	8,22,480 0 0
Do. .	<i>pargana</i> Ballia and Kharid ¹ in <i>sarkar</i> Ghazipur.	1194-6 <i>Fasli</i> .	6,99,006 0 0
Do. . .	<i>pargana</i> Mungra, <i>sarkar</i> Jaunpur.	1194 <i>Fasli</i> .	85,001 0 0
Do.	taluk Bhainsa Deorain ² , <i>sarkar</i> Jaunpur.	Do.	11,913 0 0
Mir Mustafa Khan .	village Narayanpur taluk Jalhupur, <i>sarkar</i> Benares.	1193-5 <i>Fasli</i> .	9,753 0 0
Do. . .	<i>pargana</i> Katehir, Sheopur and Athganwan, (District Benares).	1193 <i>Fasli</i> .	1,76,756 13 4
Do. . .	Do. .	1194 <i>Fasli</i> .	Do.
Do. . .	<i>pargana</i> Garwara, <i>sarkar</i> Jaunpur.	Do.	1,00,001 0 0
Do. . .	<i>pargana</i> Barhwal ³ & Dhus, ³ <i>sarkar</i> Chunar.	Do.	59,674 4 0
Mirza Akbar Ali .	<i>pargana</i> Saremu in Jaunpur.	Do.	42,751 0 0

IV. *Paper of requests*⁴. (1) The petitioner stood security for the balances of revenues pertaining to *parganas* Bhuli⁵ Pandri⁶ and Thana⁷ which were farmed out to Babu Partap Singh in 1194 *Fasli* (1786-7). At this time in obedience to the orders from the presence (Raja Mahip Narayan) the petitioner has signed the agreement on his account. The *mahals* had been in the farm of Babu Pratap Singh for long. It is certain therefore that the Babu as well as his brothers and relatives will represent their claims to the Raja, the Resident or the Governor General. Requests therefore that the position of the

¹ *Pargana* in Ballia District, United Provinces.

² Taluk in Guzara *pargana*, District Jaunpur, United Provinces.

³ *Pargana* in *tahsil* Chandauli, District Benares, United Provinces.

⁴ This appears to be the petition of Sheo Lal Dube addressed to Raja Mahip Narayan.

⁵ *Pargana* in Mirzapur District, United Provinces.

⁶ Pandri also called Pahari, small village in Mirzapur District, United Provinces.

⁷ Perhaps Thana Gaddi in Jaunpur District, U.P.

petitioner may be secured against such representation. *Order.* As he has been engaged in public business his case will receive due consideration. (2) In 1194 *Fasli*, Sumergir Gosain and Sheogir Gosain collected and embezzled the revenue from the *mahals* of Bhuili and other villages. Orders may be issued for the restoration of that amount to the petitioner. *Order.* Orders will be issued and *muhassil* shall be posted (to recover the amount from the Gosains). (3) While entering into the engagement he had incurred debts to pay the balance for 1194 *Fasli* on account of the revenues of Bhuili which was farmed out to Babu Pratap Singh. Requests therefore that the *mahals* now farmed out to him may not be taken away from him until the full amount has been realised. *Order.* The *mahals* shall be continued to him. (4) Babu Pratap Singh agreed to assign to the petitioner his property and other sources of income in satisfaction of the money due from him to the petitioner. Requests that he may be given possession of these. *Order.* He may take them. If any resistance is offered to him he shall receive aid from the presence (Raja). (5) The relatives and dependants of Babu Pratap Singh and Asman Singh hold the farm of some villages where an increased collection is possible. But they resist when the *qists* are demanded from them. If the farms have been given to them as *jagirs* he should be allowed to collect the gross revenue from them. *Order.* If they raise objections in the payment of *qists*, gross revenue may be collected and the *jagir* should be put under distraint till money is realised.

VI. *Continuation of remission grants in 1194 Fasli.*—

Taluk or <i>Pargana</i> (1)	Amount remitted. Benares sicca Rupees	
	(2)	
Katehir, Sheopur and Athganwan	23,357	4 0
<i>Pargana</i> Gopalapur	2,000	0 0
Taluk Barsathi, <i>pargana</i> Mariahu	4,442	10 0
Jaunpur	3,160	7 ¹ 0
(OR 287-314; TR 27, pp 376-92, no 284; AR 4, p 483).		

¹ 8 annas, according to the vol. of translations.

1788

May 31.

442. *Notification.* Having received various representations from the merchants setting forth the heavy losses they frequently sustain from the detention and over-valuation of their goods at the Government Custom Houses in the Company's provinces and at the Custom Houses in the zamindari of Benares, the Governor-General in Council, with a view to removing the cause of these complaints and to promoting the inland trade in general, but more particularly the trade between the provinces of Bengal and Bihar and the zamindari of Benares, has thought proper to establish the following regulations for the collection of the customs in the countries mentioned above.

1. That *rawanas*¹ be taken out at the Custom Houses in the zamindari of Benares for all goods exported to or imported from that country, and the officers of the Raja have been directed to grant these in the same form as those at present issued at the Government Customs Houses in the Company's provinces.

2. That *rawanas* taken out at any of the Government Custom Houses in the Company's provinces for goods to be exported to the zamindari of Benares, shall be valid in the latter place in regard to the price of such goods; and *rawanas* taken out in the district of Benares for goods to be exported to the Company's provinces, shall be entitled to the same privilege in these provinces.

3. That merchants importing goods from the zamindari of Benares into the Company's provinces, shall on demand produce the *rawanas*, taken out in Benares to the Company's officers of the customs, who will collect the established government import duties on the valuation specified in the same, and grant the customary *rawanas* for covering such goods to any part of the Company's provinces; in like manner all merchants exporting goods from the Company's Provinces to the zamindari of Benares, shall on

¹ P. custom-house permit.

demand produce the Company's *rawanas* to the officers of the customs in Benares who will collect the established duties on the valuation specified in the same, and grant a *rawana* under the seal of the Raja of Benares and others for covering such goods to any part of his territories.

4. That all existing rules or orders for the collection of customs in the Company's provinces, and in the zamindari of Benares, not annulled by the above regulations are to be considered as still in force.

5. That the above regulations do come into force in the Company's provinces from 15 May and be considered as having been in force in the zamindari of Benares from 1st April last, when public notification of the same was made throughout that district. (*CI 20, pp 226-7, no 227*).

Jun. 2. **443.** To Dil Diler Khan. Says that so long as the Prince stays at Benares, it will not be possible for the Company to provide the Khan with a house there. The Governor-General will however, consider the question of his accommodation after the Prince's departure from Benares. Has no objection to the Khan's visiting the Prince. (*CI 20, p 84, no 85; AR 4, p 530, no 146*).

Jun. 4. **444.** From Harakram Tewari, *gumashta* of Sahu Manohar Das. The *malikana*¹ villages of Raja Bikramajit Singh in *pargana* Muhammadabad² were mortgaged to him in 1194 *Fasli* (1786-7). But the Board of Revenue have now confiscated them. Requests the Governor-General to issue orders that the said villages may be released in favour of the writer. (*OR 315; TR 27, p 392, no 285; AR 4, p 482*).

Jun. 4. **445.** Enclosures from Major Palmer, Resident with Mahadaji Sindhia at Gwalior.—

(1) *The King to Major Palmer.* Has directed Manzur Ali Khan to write full particulars of the royal affairs to

¹ P. proprietary, annual or monthly allowance paid to a zamindar by the person who occupies his lands.

² *Pargana* in Ghazipur District, U.P.

the Major. Evidently the settlement of these affairs rests with the English and Mahadaji Sindhia. The Major is expected to act according to His Majesty's desires.

(2) *Nawab Nazir Manzur Ali Khan to Major Palmer.* It is needless to relate here the services Mahadaji Sindhia rendered to His Majesty in the past. Lately owing to some disagreement he deserted the King. But His Majesty still has a great regard for him. The writer is therefore anxious that Sindhia may somehow or other be reconciled to His Majesty. Hopes that the English gentlemen will mediate in this matter.

(3) *News from Delhi.* Begam Samru¹ has summoned troops from all quarters of her *jagir* in order to give his Majesty an idea of the numerical strength of her forces in order to press for money and *jaidad*² commensurate with the expenses of her army. If her demand is not met, it is reported, she will leave the King. Another report is that she would first of all insist on the payment of her allowance which is in arrears. It is also said that His Majesty's sister has offered Begam Samru several lakhs of rupees if the latter undertakes to depose the King and place her husband on the throne. The King has come to learn of this conspiracy. He has summoned his troops from all directions and has sent Ahmad Ali Khan³ to fetch Himmat Bahadur. Orders have also been issued to the zamindars of Ballabgarh⁴, Bahadurgarh⁵, Najafgarh⁶ and of other *mahals* in the neighbourhood of Delhi to hold themselves in readiness to repair immediately to the capital when summoned. The King wants his sister's husband to be poisoned. Secret preparations for war

¹ Her name was Zebun-Nisa. She was the widow of Walter Reinhardt and fief-holder of Sardhana near Meerut

² P. an assignment of land, a place, assets, funds, resources, property.

³ Courtier of Shah Alam.

⁴ *Tahsil* and town in Gurgaon District, Punjab, 23 miles from Delhi on the Delhi-Muttra Road.

⁵ Town in Rohtak District, Punjab, situated 19 miles west of Delhi.

⁶ Town in Delhi Province situated 17 miles south-west of Delhi.

are going on. It is also said that Najaf Quli Khan has sent through Begam Samru a bill for a lakh of rupees to the King on the part of Rao Raja¹ (of Macheri). Out of this amount the Begam desires to take Rs. 45,000 as her allowance for 3 months. But the King is not inclined to pay the allowance. Consequently a breach has occurred between them. Further particulars will be communicated as soon as available. Dated 13 *Shaban* (19 May 1788). Received at Gwalior by Major Palmer 16 *Shaban* (22 May 1788). (*OR* 316-18; *TR* 27, pp 392-5, no 286; *AR* 4, p 483).

Jun. 4. **446.** From Rai Mahanand. Says that during the last *Dasahra*² celebrations some 25 Mussalmans destroyed the image of the Devi³. He lodged a complaint against them in the *Faujdari Adalat*⁴. The case has been pending for seven months. Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan has now referred the case to his *Naib*, 'Ainud-Din Ali Khan, for enquiry. The *Naib* sent for the writer's brother today and confined him. Being a nephew (sister's son) of Raja Guru Das, the writer holds a respectable position. 'Ainud-Din Ali Khan has greatly injured his feelings and reputation by placing his brother in confinement. Hopes the Governor-General will pay due regard to his position and will soon issue orders that the case may be transferred to

¹ Partap Singh, Rao Raja, of Macheri was the founder of the Alwar State. He was born in 1740, and at first possessed two and a half villages, namely, Macheri, Rajgarh, and half of Rajpura. For a few years he maintained a nominal allegiance to Jaipur; but a minority in that State afforded an opportunity for aggrandizement and between 1771 and 1776 he succeeded in establishing independent power in the greater part of the territory which now forms the southern half of Alwar. At this period also he joined forces with Najaf Khan and aided him in defeating the Jats of Bharatpur at Barsana and Dig, for which services he received from the titular emperor (Shah Alam II) the title of Rao Raja and a *sanad* authorizing him to hold Macheri direct from the Crown. Before he died in 1791, he had secured possession of seven *tahsils* and parts of two others, besides a large tract subsequently recovered by Jaipur. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Rajputana.*

² H. a Hindu festival in honour of Devi or Goddess Durga celebrated for ten days in the month of September-October.

³ Goddess Durga.

⁴ P. Criminal court.

the court of some English gentleman for trial. (*OR* 319; *TR* 27, pp. 395-6, no 287; *AR* 4, p 488).

. 4. **447.** From Kanwar Daulat Singh¹. Had presented his *'arzis* to the Governor-General six months ago at Patna. The writer was then informed that orders would be issued by the Council. Prays for an early settlement of his affairs. Requests the Governor-General to grant him an interview and honour him with letters. (*OR* 320; *TR* 27, pp 396-7, no 288; *AR* 4, p 477).

. 4. **448.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has already sent for his lordship's perusal the letters which he received from the Raja of Nepal and his *naib*. Two more letters have now arrived from Nepal. Mirza Ali Naqi Khan, his *vakil*, will deliver their copies also to his lordship and will communicate other particulars as well. Mr Duncan has also received letters from Nepal and he too must have informed the Governor-General about them. (*OR* 321; *TR* 27, p 297, no 289; *AR* 4, p 458).

n. 4. **449.** *The Raja of Nepal to Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan.* Is much delighted to receive two friendly letters, one from Mr Duncan and the other from the addressee. Desires that arrangement may be made for regular communication between them. Hopes that he will consider the Raja a true and sincere friend and as such he will write frequently to him. Has learnt further particulars from the letter of Gajraj Misar². Sends a piece of cloth and musk balls as a present. (*OR* 322; *TR* 27, pp 397-8, no 290; *AR* 4 p 458).

un. 4. **450.** *Bahadur Singh, Naib of the Raja of Nepal, to Ali Ibrahim Khan.* Complimentary reply. (*OR* 323, *TR* 27, p 398, no 290; *AR* 4, p 458).

¹ Son of Raja Kalyan Singh. Died in his father's life-time.

² He was one of the hereditary *Gurus* or spiritual guides of the Gurkha *raj* family and wielded much influence at the Court.

1788

- Jun. 4. 451. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Expresses satisfaction at the replies which the Nawab has written to the King's *shuqqas*. (*CI* 20, p. 85, no 86; *AR* 4, p 553, no 147).
- Jun. 4. 452. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 85, no 87; *AR* 4, p 532, no 148).
- Jun. 4. 453. To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Congratulates him on his marriage and sends presents on this auspicious occasion. (*CI* 20, pp 85-6, no 88; *AR* 4, p 536, no 149).
- Jun. 4. 454. To Babu Sarabjit Singh. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 225, no 227; *AR* 4, p 549, no 150).
- Jun. 5. 455. From the Nazir Deo of Cooch Behar. The Governor-General is already aware of his distressed circumstances. His enemies had usurped his *raj* and his life was in danger. So he took to flight and wandered in the jungles. Fortunately his lordship having learnt about these circumstances issued a proclamation respecting him and deputed Messrs Mercer and Chauvet to enquire into his affairs. Has received his lordship's letter through these gentlemen and is convinced that after the enquiry he will be restored to his inheritance. Has done everything in his power for the advantage of the Company. In 1180 Bengali (5 April 1773) he assigned Cooch Behar to the Company and secured their protection. Since then he has never been guilty of any misdemeanour. His enemies have reduced him to the state of a beggar and have misrepresented his case. An enquiry into these affairs will establish the truth of his statement. Dated 18 *Jeth* year 278. (28th May 1788 A. D.). (*OR* 324¹; *TR* 27, pp 398-9, no 291; *AR* 4, p 484).
- Jun. 6. 456. Enclosures from Mr. Wodsworth, Resident at Bala-sore. (1) *Pran Dat, Salt Contractor in Orissa, to Mr Wodsworth*. Since the Company's salt business began the writer has been engaged as a contractor with them. At the begin-

¹ This letter is in Bengali.

ning no other person was prepared to enter into such engagements as there were no prospects of any profit. The writer accepted the contract and supplied salt to the Company according to the terms of his engagement even at a loss. He never sold salt to *beoparis* though they offered higher prices because he is convinced that the Company are straightforward in their business. Has now learnt that the Company have accepted tenders for the supply of salt from other contractors at Calcutta at Rs. 100 per 100 maunds. Requests that his rate may be increased by ten rupees since he is an old contractor of the Company and has large sums outstanding in this business at various places. Hopes the addressee will help in securing this advantage. Has already sent to the addressee the letter received by him from Calcutta (respecting the prevalent rates at the place).

(2) *Petition of Pran Dat and other Salt Contractors in Orissa to Mr Wodsworth.* Have learnt that several people have been granted *parwanas* by the authorities at Calcutta to import salt from Balasore and supply it to the Company at the rate of Rs. 110 per 100 maunds. These people are offering higher prices to the manufacturers and so the petitioners are unable to obtain the salt which they have engaged to supply to the Company at the rate of Rs. 77 per 100 maunds. Requests that the petitioners may be granted a monopoly of this business and that no one else may be allowed to import salt from Balasore and that if anyone does so the petitioners shall have power to seize his stock. Unless these favours are granted they would not be able to fulfil their contract with the Company and besides they will be put to a great loss as they have advanced money to the manufacturers in many places and would not be able to recover it at all. (OR 325-6; TR 27, pp 399-402, no 292; AR 4, p 483).

Jun. 6. 457. From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Is delighted to receive his letter. Has also learnt from the letters of his *vakil*, Gokul Chand Chaube, that the Governor-General is expecting him at Calcutta. Says that the date and time

of his departure will be communicated to his lordship as soon as he has fixed them. For particulars refers him to his *vakil*. (OR 327; TR 27, p 402, no 293; AR 4, p 489).

Jun. 8. **458.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Has already written to his lordship about his conversation with Nawab Mushirul-Mulk. Here (at Hyderabad) the chiefs were pleased to hear of the rumoured breach between the English and the French¹ excepting that Tipu would, if war broke out, support the latter and the English would necessarily approach the Nizam for help and then all his demands would be readily conceded. Several letters from the Chief of Poona (the Peshwa) arrived stating that Mr Malet expected war in the near future and desired him (the Nizam) to side with the English. Afterwards three letters arrived on the same day asking the Nizam to expedite the reply and this convinced him that war was imminent between the English and the French. In reply the Nizam agreed to join the English. In the meantime news of settlement (between the English and the French) arrived from Europe and all calculations were set at rest. Mons. Aumont who had been deputed to Pondicherry has returned to Hyderabad but he is keeping his tongue within his cheek. Sivaji Pandit, *vakil* of the Peshwa, is going to Poona. The purpose of his departure is not known. Tipu has marched from Seringapatam with an army of 70,000 men in order to punish Ram Raja² who had behaved improperly during the engagement at Badami³ and, as a result, his (Tipu's) army suffered another defeat

¹ About this time the French in expectation of a new war attempted to gain possession of Trincomali by means of the Dutch faction opposed to the house of Orange. The possession of this harbour by the French seemed to the Madras Presidency so dangerous that Sir Archibald Campbell, Governor of that Presidency, on learning the design to capture it determined on his own responsibility to retaliate by immediate preparation for the siege of Pondicherry. The French finding Trincomali well prepared for defence desisted and Sir Archibald having in consequence abandoned his preparation peace was not disturbed. Beveridge : *A Comprehensive History of India*, Vol. II, p 583.

² Ruler of Travancore (1758-98).

³ Hill fort in Bijapur District, Bombay.

1788

recently¹. The Nizam is desirous of deputing some person to Tipu. Probably Mumtazul-Umara,² son of Kali Begam, sister of the Nizam, will be deputed as he was previously employed on that business. It is reliably learnt that Nawab Mushirul-Mulk has written to Walajah³ (Nawab of Arcot⁴) complaining that in spite of the latter's attachment to the Nizam he does not exert his influence with the English in advancing his business with them and also that the amount of the *peshkash* (of the Northern Circars) has not yet been paid to the Nizam. Manmohan Rao Pangalia is creating more and more disturbances. His monetary difficulties have been removed, the *sarrafs*⁵ having advanced him a sum of 9 lakhs. Those who were sent to chastise him have been repulsed. Another body of cavalry has been sent there. But they have no heart in this business and declare openly that today it is his (Pangalia's) *jagir* which is confiscated, it may be their turn the next day. So what success can be expected from such faint-hearted people? The Nizam is engaged in the construction of Gulshan Bagh. During this month of *Rajab* (April-May 1788) about 13 sons and daughters of the Nizam will be married. A sum of Rs. 2,50,000 has been allotted for the expenses. As usual the celebrations will take place at the residence of the late Nawab Anwarud-Din Khan.⁶ The writer, who lived in the *mahalsarai*⁷

¹ The meaning is not quite clear in the original.

² Mumtazul-Umara was the nephew of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan, being the son of his sister, Mukarrama Bano Begam, commonly called Kali Begam, who was married to a nobleman named Mir Kulan Khan. He was banished from the Nizam's court during Lord Cornwallis's war in Mysore for carrying on a correspondence with Tipu Sultan. On the Nizam's return from his unsuccessful campaign against the Marathas in 1795, he was recalled to the court and admitted to a share in the administration of affairs but at the instance of Azamul-Umara he retired on his *jagir* at Kalyani, about 130 miles to the north-west of Hyderabad. He was born in 1759.—I.R.D: *Foreign Misc. Records*, Vol. 129

³ Muhammad Ali Khan, Nawab of Arcot (1749-95 A.D.).

⁴ Historic town and district in Madras.

⁵ A. money-changer; banker.

⁶ Probably Anwarud-Din Khan who was first an officer of the army of Nizamul-Mulk, *Subadar* of the Deccan, and subsequently became the Nawab of Arcot.

⁷ P. private apartment or chamber of a King or a nobleman; inner or female apartment.

1788

of that palace, has consequently shifted to another place for the duration of these celebrations. (*OR* 328; *TR* 27, pp 403-5, no 294; *AR* 4, p 480).

Jun. 8. **459.** *Intelligence* from Aurangabad¹ relating to Fath Ali Khan Tipu and Nawab Nizam Ali Khan, received at Fatehgarh² on 20 *Shaban* (28 May 1788). Has received the orders about establishing a regular system for the transmission of news about Fath Ali Khan|Tipu. The idea is good but the officers of the Nizam's government having entered into a close relationship with Tipu, will never tolerate that any one in their jurisdiction should have any connection with other chiefs. It will therefore take some time to establish the desired system. Is however busily engaged in finding ways and means to achieve this object. The communication with Tipu's army through *harkaras* cannot be regarded as satisfactory at all. Once in a fit of anger Tipu had inflicted severe punishment on some of his own *harkaras* and thus all communications with the Nizam were cut off. But after peace had been concluded he sent two envoys to the Nizam. He returned the compliment by sending Hafiz Faridud-Din Khan and Saiyid Daud Ali Khan³ with some presents to Tipu Sultan. On their return to Hyderabad they gave the following account of Tipu's government. He possesses large military stores. The infantry is more numerous than the cavalry. The administration is efficient and the country fertile. The collection of revenue goes on from day to day. The Sultan is very fond of hunting big game. He is a perfect rider and a dead shot. He possesses jewels in abundance. Servants receive their salaries regularly and they are zealous in obeying his commands. Animals and other articles have been sent by him as presents for the Nizam.

Affairs of the Nizam. The Nizam always went with a strong army at the commencement of the winter season to

¹ City in Hyderabad State.

² Town in Farrukhabad District, U. P.

³ Bahadur Khan accompanied Faridud-Din according to no 249 above.

1788

chastise the refractory zamindars and after obtaining *peshkash* from them returned to Hyderabad in the beginning of the rainy season. But for the last two years he has discontinued this practice because his position is secure on account of the friendly relations with Tipu and the Marathas. Moreover, the *peshkashes* are being paid into the Treasury without any hitch. The marriage celebrations of the sons and daughters of the Nizam will commence during this month of *Rajab*. Nawab Mushirul-Mulk is the prime minister. During the last *Nauroz* celebrations about 200 persons have been honoured with the titles of *Mulk*, *Daulah*, *Jang*, *Khan*, *Raja* and *Rai* and have been invested with *khil'ats* also. The Poona Chiefs are established in their States and have sent Ali Bahadur with a large army to assist Mahadaji Sindhia. Dated 19 *Rajab* 1202 A.H. (27 April 1788). (OR 329; TR 27, pp 405-8, no 295; AR 4, p 474).

Jun. 8. **460.** From Mansa Ram,¹ *gumashta* of Sahu Manohar Das at Lucknow. Complimentary. (OR 330; TR 27, p 408, no 296; AR 4, p 471).

Jun. 8. **461.** Enclosures from Mr Duncan, Resident at Benares. (1) *State of health of Prince Jahandar Shah.* On 24 *Shaban* (31 May 1788) the Prince proceeded to Chumargarh² early in the morning and returned the same evening. He passed a restless night owing to pain in his chest. In the morning he stepped out of his chamber but shortly afterwards while returning to rest, he fainted, fell on the ground and perspired profusely. Then he sent for physicians and took medicines. Suddenly afterwards his eyes rolled and he fainted again. It is midday and the Prince is still lying unconscious. Hearing this Mr Duncan and Ali Ibrahim Khan paid a visit and doctors also arrived. But no medicine could give any relief to the Prince. In the morning he had written and despatched his last will to Ali Ibrahim Khan as also to Mr Duncan.

¹ *Gumashta* of Gopal Das, according to the vol. of abstracts.

² Chunar fort in Mirzapur District, U. P.

(2) *Prince Jahandar Shah to Ali Ibrahim Khan.* Says that his condition has become serious on account of acute pain in his chest. Requests that in case he dies and the King should send for the members of his family they must never be sent to Delhi. Otherwise the Khan will be held responsible on the Day of Judgment.

(3) *The Prince to Mr Duncan.* Says that his condition is serious owing to pain in the chest. If he survives, it is well. If he dies, he only submits to the Divine will. Begs the addressee in the name of all that he holds sacred to support his family. Asks that in case he dies the allowance that is paid to him now should be continued to his wife. In case the King should summon the members of his family after his death, enjoins on the addressee in the name of all that is sacred in his religion never to allow them to go. As the Prince is laying down his life in the country of the addressee (in the Company's territory) he must preserve the honour of his (Prince's) household for the love of Virgin Mary. Has written this at a time when his senses have been giving way in order to impress upon the addressee's mind the memory of his last requests. (OR 331-3).

Jun. 9. **462.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Has already communicated the news of this quarter. Here are some other important items. Manmohan Rao Pangalia has been creating disturbances. The Nizam's troops chased him and besieged him in his fortress. At last he took to flight and the Nizam's forces established themselves at that place. Tipu Sultan has given up the idea of punishing Ram Raja and has turned his mind against the Nayars¹. The Nizam is busy arranging for the wedding ceremonies of 14² sons and daughters. The festivities will be continued for about three or four months. (OR 334; TR 27, p 408, no 297; AR 4, p 480).

Jun. 9. **463.** From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Is grieved to report that on Sunday, 12 *Shaban* (1 June 1788) he learnt

¹ Dominant caste on Malabar Coast.

² 13. According to no 459 above.

1788

in the morning about the sudden illness of Prince Jahandar Shah. The Nawab at once proceeded to see him. Presuming an attack of apoplexy the doctors did their best to cure it. But no power could save him from death against the Divine will and the Prince expired. The Nawab took part in the funeral ceremonies till late in the night and also tried to console the bereaved family. (OR 335; TR 27, pp 408-9, no 298; AR 4, p 489).

Jun. 9. **464.** From Khan Jahan Khan. Complains against Capt. Cumming¹ and his men who have been residing at Hooghly for some time now. They oppress the people very much and create disturbances. Hopes the Governor-General will enquire into the affair. (OR 336; TR 27, p 409, no 299; AR 4, p 476).

Jun. 10. **465.** From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Complimentary. Sends twenty baskets of mangoes as a present. (OR 337; TR 27, pp 409-10, no 300; AR 4, p 478).

Jun. 10. **466.** From Murar Rao. When the salt business was started in Orissa it was agreed between the Maharaja (Mudhoji Rhonsla) and the Governor-General that only Mr Wodsworth would be competent to grant *parwanas* for transporting salt from Orissa and that anyone trying to export it without his authority would forfeit it to the Company. Hopes that this agreement would be observed in every respect. Otherwise it would not be possible to supply the article through Mr Wodsworth. (OR 338; TR 27, p 410, no 301; AR 4, p 483).

Jun. 11. **467.** From Ali Azim Khan². His case regarding the restoration of his zamindari was referred to Mr Duncan

¹ Probably Capt. Stuart Cummings or Cummine. His Christian name and surname are both variously given as Stuart and Stewart, as Cummine, Cumings, Cumine, and Cumming. Born 1745-46. Cadet 1771. Lieutenant 31 January 1774. Became Captain of Artillery on 1 July 1782. Resigned on pension 15 January 1783. Died on 16 April 1791 aged 45. Hodson: *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

² At the time of Chait Singh's rebellion Ali Azim Khan was *Faujdar* of Ghazipur. For his services to the Company during the insurrection he was granted an annual cash allowance of Rs.10,000 by Mr Hastings and was also confirmed in the possession of his ancestral property comprising houses and gardens in Ghazipur. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VI.

for enquiry. Has now been informed by that gentleman that his case is time-barred and therefore it cannot be investigated. In 1174 *Fasli* (1766-7 A.D.) his father and uncle were both turned out of the zamindari in question by Raja Balwant Singh on account of enmity. But at the time of Chait Singl's rebellion the Khan rendered valuable services to Mr Hastings who therefore ordered an enquiry into the affairs of his zamindari. His claims were admitted as valid both by Mr Markham and Mr Grant who investigated them. Thus it will be seen that the case has been pending for the last seven years, that is, ever since the expulsion of Raja Chait Singh. Besides, it is a fact that those who rendered services to the Company during the Raja's rebellion have been restored to their possessions after a lapse of 30 years. The time-limit should therefore not be allowed to operate against his interest and his rights should be restored to him. (*OR* 339; *TR* 27, pp 411-12, no 302; *AR* 4, p. 460).

Jun. 11. **468.** From the widow of Raja Gobind Ram. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter. Since her husband, Raja Gobind Ram, is dead there is no one to support her except the Governor-General and the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah). Has already informed him about the Nawab Vazir's generosity to her. Now looks to his lordship for help. Will proceed to Calcutta herself after the expiry of the mourning period of 6 months during which time, according to the Hindu custom, she may not leave her house. (*OR* 340; *TR* 27, p 412, no 303; *AR* 4, p 472).

Jun. 11. **469.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received two letters of his lordship through Mr Sadlier¹ expressing his desire of deputing some trustworthy person to the court of the Nizam in order to strengthen further the friendly

¹ Anthony Sadlier was the Member of the Council at Madras and concluded the treaty of Mangalore in 1784. Afterwards he became the Chief of Masulipatam (1789-92).

1788

relations with him. The idea is commendable but the Mir would like to explain his personal views based on experience gained at Hyderabad. Says that generally the Indian princes do not abide by their pledges. According to them every old agreement becomes obsolete. All that they are keen about is the acquisition of land and money by any possible means. The Nizam who is so anxious to receive the balance of the *peshkash* for the (Northern) Circars would not listen to anything about settling the question of Guntur. Any negotiation on this account may displease him and he would, as usual, seek help from the Marathas in whose friendship he reposes full confidence. No terms are likely to be acceptable to him and he would put off this question on some pretext or other pointing out that during the last three years he has received no reply from England (to his proposal for a fresh treaty). It is necessary therefore that any negotiation respecting Guntur should be conducted very skilfully. The Mir, on his part, will furnish all particulars regarding this matter to the gentleman whom his lordship may depute.

Lately, the Nizam received a *shugqa* from His Majesty (Shah Alam) in which the receipt of a *nazr* of 101 *ashrafs* has been acknowledged. This *nazr* is sent twice a year on the occasion of the two *Ids*. The Nizam went out of the city to receive the *shugqa* according to custom. The title of *Rustam-i-Dauran*¹ has been conferred on the Nizam by His Majesty who has also asked his advice on the administration of his own affairs. (*OR* 341; *TR* 27, pp 413-15, no 304; *AR* 4, p 480).

Jun. 12. 470. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam², widow of Prince Jahandar Shah. Says that on 24 *Shaban* (31 May 1788)

¹ P. The Rustam of his time. Rustam was the most renowned of Persian heroes.

² She was the principal consort of Prince Jahandar Shah. In 1788 she came away with him from Delhi to live in British territory. While they were stopping at Benares, the Prince suddenly expired. She died on October 20, 1818. I.R.D.: *Foreign Miscellaneous Records*, Vol. 131.

at about 3 o'clock in the morning the Prince went to Chunargarh and after spending a short time there returned to Benares the same evening an hour before sunset. The whole night he was uneasy and restless feeling very hot. When morning dawned he said he felt a severe pain in the chest. At the time of the morning prayers he wrote two letters with his own hand, one addressed to Mr Duncan and the other to Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan and having affixed his seal to them he handed them to her saying that he would write to his brother, the Governor-General, and the Nawab Vazir about her. She asked him why he spoke in such a desponding manner and wrote such letters. He replied that the pain in his chest was very acute and that those letters would be of use to her. Then he stepped out of chamber but returned shortly when he fainted and fell unconscious on the ground perspiring profusely. He sent for the physician who felt his pulse. He then asked for the draught. Suddenly his eyes rolled and he became unconscious. People thought it was an apoplectic seizure. When Mr Duncan and Ali Ibrahim Khan learnt this they called on him with Hakim Abdullah and some European doctors.

They opened a vein and applied remedies. As life was already extinct their treatment was of no avail. This event has crushed her under a mountain of affliction and has left her bewildered and miserable. The deceased Prince considered the Company's territories as his home and refuge and came with his family in order to settle down under the Governor-General's protection and it was in these circumstances that he expired at Benares. Trusts that she may be allowed to reside there in the same manner under the same protection by the side of the tomb of her departed husband. (*OR 342; TR 27, pp 415-17, no 305; AR 4, p 305*).

Jun. 13. 471. From Nawab Akbar Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR 343; TR 27, p 417, no 306; AR 4, p 460*).

1788

Jun. 13.

472. From Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. During the time of the *Nazims* (the Nawabs of Bengal) the revenue of the *chakla* of Burdwan was fixed at Rs. 30,15,000 but only about 25 lakhs per year were actually paid. From 1167 to 1182 Bengali (1660-76 A. D.) the *chakla* remained under the direct management of the Company. During these 16 years his father, the late Raja Tilok Chand, supported himself and a host of dependents on the *mushahara* granted to him personally and the allowance given to him for the upkeep of his *raqdi*¹ troops and the excess profits from the *deorhi mahals*² and the like. These sources of his income were never touched by the Company's officers in the course of those 16 years and the Raja continued to enjoy them. But when the settlement was made with him (the writer) in 1188 Bengali (1781-2 A. D.) he was required to pay Rs. 4,93,700 over and above the assessment of 1186 Bengali (1779-80). Consequently all the allowances and concessions granted to his late father have gone to the payment of the revenue and he has nothing left for his subsistence.

It may be urged that in the settlement of 1188 there was a general increase in the amount of the revenue throughout Bengal. But there is an essential difference between the conditions of Burdwan and those of the other zamindaris, like Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Krishnagar³ and Birbhum. The previous assessment of the latter estates were underestimated. Hence, the slight rise afterwards did not matter much as even after the increase there was a clear margin left.

It was a time-honoured custom in the zamindari of Burdwan that the ryots paid 1/12th of the regular revenue extra on the occasion of marriages in the zamindar's family and similarly there was another levy for the repair of the fort. But when the records fell into the hands of the English gentlemen they also calculated these items in fixing the

¹ P. retainers who received their salary in cash.

² *Mahals* allotted for the maintenance of the *Ranis* of Burdwan.

³ The Zamindari of Nadia.

revenue and promised that on ceremonial occasions they would grant extra allowances. Accordingly on the occasion of the writer's birth the Company granted one lakh of rupees and also gave something at the time of his *churakarn*¹ and similarly they provided the expenses of his father's *sradh*. But they granted nothing at the time of the writer's marriages. Has cited these instances only to illustrate what concessions have always been enjoyed by the Zamindar of Burdwan. It was also agreed by the Council during the time of Mr Vansittart² that the Raja should enjoy any excess profit arising out of his zamindari after paying the stipulated revenue which was then fixed at 30 lakhs and the expenses of the troops which were computed at 2½ lakhs. All these statements can be verified from Government records.

Requests therefore that the Governor-General may be pleased to make the settlement of Burdwan with him in one of the following manners :

(1) In the year 1180 the revenue was fixed at Rs. 38,58,251 plus Rs. 5,28,613-5-0 on account of *mushahara* and other charges. Let the latter sum be remitted and the settlement be made for Rs. 38,58,251.

(2) His revenue may be fixed on the basis of the average of the collections of the 16 years during which the Company managed the zamindari directly.

(3) A commission may be appointed to visit Burdwan, study the condition of the country and then fix its revenue. The writer will abide by their decision.

(4) After fixing the revenue in any manner stated above let the settlement be made for 10 years commencing from the year 1195 Bengali (1788-9). (OR 334-5 ; TR 27, pp 418-24 , no 308 ; AR 4, p 464).

¹ H. The ceremony of shaving the head all but one lock ; tonsure.

² Henry Vansittart, Governor of Bengal (1760 to 1764 A. D.).

1788

Jun. 13.

473. *Intelligence*¹. The Begam (Qutlaq Sultan) procured a pair of scissors and cut off her hair. Her attendant on learning this kept a watch over her in order to prevent her from committing any violence upon herself. The 3 princes² went to the durbar this morning and there received the compliments of the servants and officials in attendance. Akbar Ali Khan represented to the Begam that Mr Duncan and Sa'adat Ali Khan wished the Begam to choose one of the princes to whom they would pay their respects but it was ultimately settled that they would abide by the determination of his lordship in the matter and would in the meantime pay their respects to Her Royal Highness. The Begam said that Sa'adat Ali Khan and Ali Ibrahim Khan should take care of the princes and appointed Akbar Ali Khan the Superintendent of her household. The Begam ordered curtains to be put up as she would hold a durbar. Then she told the servants that His Royal Highness was dead and that she was now the mistress and would retain every one in her service. (*TR* 27, pp 417-8, no 307; *AR* 4, p 474).

Jun. 14.

474. From the Raja of Burdwan. Has already represented his distressed situation to the Governor-General. An account of the loss amounting to Rs. 3,60,901-7 annas and 13 *ganilas*³ suffered by him owing to inundation, has also been sent to his lordship. Requests that the said amount may be remitted in view of his adverse circumstances which are growing worse this year. Further requests that a new settlement may be made with him either according to the receipts during the *sazawali*⁴ of Raja Nabakishan or on the terms of the year 1163 or the revenue may be fixed after a thorough examination of the capacity of the estate by local enquiries. (*OR* 346; *TR* 27, pp 424-5, no 309; *AR* 4, p 464).

¹ From Benares.

² Sons of Prince Jahandar Shah: (1) Mirza Shigufta Bakht *alias* Mirza Haji (2) Muzaffar Bakht (3) Khurram Bakht *alias* Muazzam Shah.

³ *Ganda*, B. 4 cowries=1 *ganda*; 20 *gandas*=1 anna.

⁴ P. Business of a *sazawal* or agent appointed by a landowner or lessor to compel payment of rent by tenants or leaseholders.

1788

- Jun. 14. **475.** To the King. Condoles with His Majesty on the death of his heir-apparent, Prince Jahandar Shah. (*CI* 20, p 87, no 89 ; *AR* 4, p 537, no 152).
- Jun. 14. **476.** To Qutlaq Sultan Begam, Nawab Akbar Ali Khan and Nawab Saadat Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, pp 88-9, nos 91-2 ; *AR* 4, pp 537, 523 & 550, nos 151 & 153-4).
- Jun. 16. **477.** From Rajaram Pandit. The *karori*¹ of *pargana* Pataspur² was returning to his station after taking leave of the writer. In the evening when he entered Jaleswar he pitched his tent (to pass the night). The Collector of Jaleswar then sent his men to turn him out and placed guards over his property which was released to him after two days with great difficulty. The conduct of the collector is contrary to the friendship (subsisting between the English and Mudhoji Bhonsla). Requests him therefore to write to the Collector that he should refrain from such behaviour in future³. (*OR* 347 ; *TR* 27, pp 425-6, no 310).
- Jun. 17. **478.** From Prince Jahandar Shah. Deputes Mirza Abdur Rahim Beg to represent particulars of his affairs before the Governor-General⁴. (*OR* 348 ; *TR* 27, p 426, no 311 ; *AR* 4, p 487).
- Jun. 17. **479.** From Prince Jahandar Shah. Intimates that he is now proceeding from Lucknow to Benares and deputing Mirza Abdur Rahim Beg to Calcutta. (*OR* 349 ; *TR* 27, pp 426-7, no 312 ; *AR* 4, p 487).
- Jun. 17. **480.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter on the subject of establishing

¹ H. tax gatherer, inspector, overseer (of a market).

² *Pargana* in Midnapore District, Bengal.

³ On the envelope of this letter is an endorsement in English "Post Paid 3 annas".

⁴ On the envelope is the remark that reply to this letter was sent to the Prince's Begam.

1788

(a court of) appeal at Benares. Has already communicated his views on the subject having received some information from Mr Duncan. Hopes that his letter has been received by his lordship. Assures that everything will be accomplished according to his lordship's desire. (*OR* 350; *TR* 27, p 427, no 313 ; *AR* 4, p 459).

Jun. 17. **481.** From Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Some time ago Mr Hastings and the Supreme Council had passed an order that the pension of Rs. 900 a month which was granted to the petitioner's father, the late Nawab Muhammad Iraj Khan, be continued to his daughters, that is to the petitioner and her sister, Aminah Khanam, in equal proportion. But this order is not fully carried out by the *Nizamat* officers and they do not pay her stipend punctually every month. Accordingly a sum of Rs. 8,892 is due to her on this account up to the end of *Jeth* 1195 Bengali (June 1788). On the other hand, it is proposed to reduce this stipend of Rs. 450 by Rs. 125 with effect from *Magh* 1194. Requests an order to Mr Speke, Superintendent of the *Nizamat*, to clear her arrears, pay monthly in future and not to make any reduction in this allowance. (*OR* 351-2; *TR* 27, pp 427-8, nos 314-15 ; *AR* 4, p 485).

Jun. 17. **482.** *Pran Dat, Salt Contractor in Orissa, to Mr Wodsworth.* Has received his letter asking him to send salt (to Calcutta) in September. Says that last year when salt was sent in this month a great quantity of it was thrown overboard and the vessel was damaged on account of inclement weather. In order to avoid such risks it will be sent in October this year.

Has learnt that several other persons are anxious to secure contract for supplying salt to the Company at Rs. 110 (per 100 maunds). If this rate is granted to them the writer will not be able to fulfil his contract as his terms being lower he cannot compete with them. (*OR* 353 ; *TR* 27, pp 428-29, no 316).

1788

Jun. 17. 483. From the widow of Lachhmi Narayan¹. Has appointed Srinarayan Mustaufi to the *niabat* of *qanungo* and zamindari as he is an old and trustworthy family servant. Hopes the Governor-General will approve of this appointment and extend his kindness towards Srinarayan.

Kishan Chand Ray was formerly appointed her *naiib* in *pargana* Rokanpur². But he mismanaged the affairs of her zamindari, ruined her property and reduced her to penury. Has therefore decided to replace him by Bireshwar Mustaufi, a nephew of Srinarayan. Requests that the Collector of Murshidabad may be directed to transact all business pertaining to Rokanpur with the aforesaid Bireshwar. The Collector may also be asked to see that Kishan Chand Ray delivers his accounts properly (to his successor). (*OR* 354; *TR* 27, p 429, no 317; *AR* 4, p 478).

Jun. 18. 484. From Mahabbat Khan³, son of Hafiz Rahmat Khan⁴. His attachment to the English gentlemen and their benevolence towards him are well known. Requests the Governor-General therefore to honour him with letters and extend his kindness towards him in the manner of his predecessors. (*OR* 355; *TR* 27, p 430, no 318; *AR* 4, p 483).

¹ Lachhmi Narayan *Qanungo* held the important zamindari of Rokanpur which was the customary appendage of the office of *Qanungo* whose duty it was to keep a complete record of the land in the province, its produce, revenues, alienation, etc. This zamindari was dispersed throughout the *chaklas* of Bengal in the minutest division of lands taken from different zamindaris and computed in 1763 to yield a net annual revenue of Rs. 3,39,466. Lachhmi Narayan died in 1784 and was succeeded by Suraj Narayan, then a minor.

² *Pargana* in Malda District, Bengal.

³ Mahabbat Khan, also called Mahabbat-ullah Khan, was the second son of Hafiz Rahmat Khan. After the battle of Miranpur Katra, Nawab Shujaud-Daulah granted a monthly pension of Rs. 8,333 to Mahabbat Khan for the support of his family which was later reduced to Rs. 65,000 per annum by his son and successor, Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Mahabbat Khan was a man of education and of literary attainments. He died in 1807. Strachey : *Hastings & the Rohilla War*. Beale : *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*.

⁴ Hafiz Rahmat Khan (1710?-1774), the famous Rohilla chief, who was killed in the battle of Miranpur Katra in 1774.

1788

Jun. 20.

485. From Shambhu Nath, *gumashta* of Raja Bachhraj. Says that he has paid into the Government Treasury the amount of the bills of Rs. 6 lakhs received from Lucknow. Requests that the Treasurer may be directed to allow him discount on those bills at the same rate as the previous ones. Requests also that an extra draft which has been received along with those bills may be returned to him :

Bill in favour of Govt.	6,00,000 Lucknow rupees
Deduct <i>batta</i> at 7-3-1 per cent	43,218-14-2

5,56,781-1-2 Calcutta rupees

Amount of bills received from

Lucknow	5,59,766-12-1
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Amount to be paid	.	.	5,56,781-1-2
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Extra bill received for 2,985-10-3

(OR 356 ; TR 27, pp 430-1, no 319 ; AR 4, p 463).

Jun. 20.

486. Notification. The Governor-General in Council has thought proper to direct that the following regulations and orders regarding the customs should be published.

That from the end of the present month of June, the duties levied at the established custom houses, under the denomination of Government Custom Houses, will be discontinued. To prevent mistakes it is declared, that this abolition is not meant for the present to extend to the duties collected at the Company's Custom House at Calcutta, upon imports into the town, whether by land or by sea, and known by the name of town duties, or Company's customs, which are continued without alteration.

That the several establishments for collecting the Government duties at Calcutta, Hooghly, Murshidabad, Dacca, Patna and Chittagong ¹, will also be abolished from the above date, and all merchants will be at liberty to trans-

¹ Town, port and district in Eastern Bengal.

port their goods through any part of the Company's provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa on this side of the Karamnasa¹, or to export them by sea free of all customs whatever, excepting the Company's customs at Calcutta.

That in lieu of the Custom House at Patna, which is to be abolished from the end of this month, a new Custom House will be established from that time at Manjhee² (Manjhighat) for collecting duties upon goods exported from and imported into the Company's provinces under the regulations below. Goods imported into the Company's provinces from the dominions of the Nawab of Oudh or any countries beyond the Karamnasa, having paid the established duties at Manjhighat will from the above date, pass duty-free through any part of Bihar, Bengal and Orissa unless imported into Calcutta, where they will be subject to the Company's customs as declared above.

Regulations for the new Custom House at Manjhighat

1. Goods exported from the Company's provinces shall pay an export duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the valuation specified in the Book of Rates, which will be open for public inspection at the Custom House.

2. Goods imported by the way of Benares, accompanied with a *rawana* taken out at any of the custom houses in that district (as directed in the regulations published on the 23rd of last month, no 442 above), shall pay an import duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the valuation specified in the Benares *rawana*.

¹ The Karamnasa, river of Northern India, rises near Sarodag in the Kaimur hills, about 3 miles above the channel of the Son, and flows away from that river in a north-westerly direction. Near Darihara it becomes the boundary line with Mirzapur district, which it enters near Kuluha. For about 15 miles it flows through Mirzapur and then re-enters Shahabad, again forming the boundary of the district until it falls into the Ganges near Chausa. This river is regarded by the Hindus as an accursed stream probably because it long formed the boundary between the orthodox region of Brahmanism, whose centre was at Benares, and the heretic country of Magadha, the home of Buddhism for many centuries,—*Shahabad District Gazetteer*.

² A place near Patna.

3. Goods imported into the Company's provinces from the dominions of the Nawab Vazir, or from any other foreign countries, without passing through the country of Benares, shall for the present pay an import duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the valuation specified in the Book of Rates.

4. Merchants importing or exporting goods to or from the Company's provinces shall pay the duties before their boats arrive opposite to the Custom House, and boats laden with goods, if stopped in the attempt of passing the said station without having previously paid the duties and taken out a *rawana*, shall be subject to double duties.

5. A *chauki* will be established at Chausa, on the confines of the province of Bihar, to stop all boats laden with goods or merchandise attempting to go out of the Company's provinces without having previously paid the export duty and taken out a *rawana*; in like manner, a *chauki* will be established between Manjhighat and Patna to stop all boats laden with goods or merchandise from entering the Company's provinces without having paid the import duty and taken out a *rawana* as directed above.

The officers of the above *chaukis* shall despatch the boats so stopped to the Collector of Manjhighat, who will be directed to confiscate the goods.

6. In order to deter merchants applying for *rawana* from giving the names of goods different in kind as inferior in quality to those which they may intend to transport, the Collector shall be authorised, either upon suspicion or information, to stop any goods or merchandise passing his station, and to examine any part of the same in the public *kachahri*; and should any such fraud appear to have been committed, he shall detain the goods and transmit the necessary proofs of the fact to the Board of Revenue, who will order the confiscation of the same. No boat is to be detained for examination longer than one day.

7. The Custom House will open every day (Sunday excepted) for the transaction of business, from 9 o'clock in

1788

the morning till 3 in the afternoon, and *rawana* applied for before 12 o'clock shall be made out and delivered not later than the following day.

8. The *rawanas*, as at present, are to be sealed and signed by the Collector, the *Darogha*, the Accountant and the *Tahvildar* ¹, the last named delivering the *rawana* upon the duties being paid.

9. No duties whatever, either on account of fees or otherwise, shall be levied by the Collector, or any of his officers, on goods imported or exported to or from the Company's provinces beyond those specified in the foregoing articles. (*CI* 20, *pp* 229-33, *no* 231).

Jun. 23. **487.** From Haidar Beg Khan. Has received no letter from his lordship for a long time. Is grateful at all times for his kindnesses towards him. Desires that he may be honoured with his lordship's letters frequently. (*OR* 357; *TR* 27, *p* 431, *no* 320; *AR* 4, *p* 473).

Jun. 25. **488.** From Pratap Singh, Raja of Jaipur. Some time ago he had sent a letter which must have been perused by his lordship. Dhan Singh, who is the Superintendent of the Raja's buildings and of his other concerns in Benares, has been entrusted with the charges of supervising the construction of his buildings there. Full particulars in this connection will be communicated to the Governor-General by Lala Ram Singh. The Raja will be much obliged if the Governor-General writes to the officers at Benares to afford assistance to Dhan Singh in the accomplishment of his business. (*OR* 358; *TR* 27, *pp* 431-2, *no* 321; *AR* 4, *p* 474).

Jun. 25. **489.** From Mahadaji Sindhia. The mother of Raja Deshmukh is proceeding on a pilgrimage to Allahabad, Benares, and Gaya. Requests that the officers of those places may be directed to give her and her companions a free passage and all other facilities in the performance of their pilgrimage. (*OR* 359; *TR* 27, *p* 432, *no* 322; *AR* 4, *p* 490).

¹ A cashier, treasurer.

1788

Jun. 25. 490. From Dil Diler Khan. Is pleased to receive two letters from his lordship in reply to his *arzis*. By one of his letters the Governor-General has permitted the Khan to correspond directly with the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah). In the other, his lordship assures him that Mr Duncan will look after the writer's comforts at Benares and that every arrangement respecting his allowance and residence will be made to his satisfaction. Is grateful for all these kindnesses of his lordship and hopes that Mr Duncan will readily attend to this business. Says that he as well as his mother and the other members of his family will never be wanting in their fidelity to the Company and the latter, it is hoped will always look to their comfort and prosperity. Further particulars will be communicated to him by Munshi Vir Bhan who has been deputed to Calcutta. (*OR* 360; *TR* 27, pp 432-3, no 323 ; *AR* 4, p 467).

Jun. 25. 491. From the mother of Muzaffar Jang, Nawab of Farrukhabad. Is sorry that the Governor-General has sent no reply to her previous representation. On account of the mismanagement and bad policy of her son (Nawab Muzaffar Jang) she moved to the Company's territory to secure, through the Governor-General's kindness, the betterment of all her concerns. But it is to be regretted that she had been reduced to utter poverty. From the time of the late Nawab Ghalib Jang¹ till last year when his lordship paid a visit to Farrukhabad she had an annual income of Rs. 27,000 from her *jagir* and other sources. Sahibganj, Raushanabad² and other villages were in her *jagir*. Sahibganj, yielding Rs. 7,000 annually, was assigned to her son, Dil Diler Khan, while Raushanabad and some other villages with an annual income of Rs. 5,000 were given to her daughter in dowry. The remaining sources of her income were kept for herself. But twenty days after the departure of his lordship from Farrukhabad the Nawab (Muzaffar Jang), at the instigation of Khiradmand Khan,

¹ Title of Nawab Ahmad Khan Bangash, Ruler of Farrukhabad (1750-71), father of Nawab Muzaffar Jang.

² Village in *pargana* Shamsabad West, *tahsil* Kaimganj, District Farrukhabad.

sequestered all her property including the villages which were given to his (Muzaffar Jang's) own sister in dowry and which should not have been touched at all according to the custom observed by both the Mussalmans and the Hindus. Over and above this, her own allowance, which was fixed by his lordship at Rs. 1,200 a month, was later reduced to Rs. 500 only. This is really very strange. In spite of her distressed situation she still disburses Rs. 500 every month towards the pay of her servants only and also supports about 200 widows of the late Nawabs Muhammad Khan¹ and Ahmad Khan. Her daughter, the sister of Nawab Muzaffar Jang, is also with her and depends on her stipend for her expenses. There is no one else to support her and her dependants except the Governor-General and the Company in whose country she has taken refuge. Requests his lordship therefore to do her justice and to increase her allowance to enable her to meet her requirements. (OR 361 ; TR 27, pp 433-6, no 324 ; AR 4, p 470).

- Jun. 25.* **492.** From Faizullah Khan, Nawab of Rampur. Complimentary, requesting that he may be honoured with his lordship's letters frequently. (OR 362 ; TR 27, p 436, no 325 ; AR 4, p 469).
- Jun. 25.* **493.** From Muhammad Ali Khan, son of Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary. (OR 363 ; TR 27, pp 436-7, no 326 ; AR 4, p 482).
- Jun. 25.* **494.** From Babu Rup Singh. Reports the death of Babu Jagdeo Singh. Says that he is a faithful servant of his lordship and looks up to him for patronage. Has deputed Lala Gopal Chand Chaube to attend upon the Governor-General. Hopes his lordship will be kind

¹ Nawab Muhammad Khan, Ghazanfar Jang, a Rohilla chief of the tribe of Bangash. In 1714 he obtained a grant of 52 Bamtela villages and founded the city of Farrukhabad after the name of his patron, Emperor Farrukh Siyar. Muhammad Khan was governor of the Province of Allahabad for a time, and later of Malwa, but his chief services were rendered as a soldier. He died in 1743 at the advanced age of eighty years. —*Imperial Gazetteer of India*, Vol. XII.

1788

enough to give a patient hearing to whatever is represented by Gopal Chand on his behalf. (OR 364 ; TR 27, p 437, no 327 ; AR 4, p 489).

Jun. 26. **495.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Has already despatched several papers of news which must have been perused by his lordship. The Nizam is engaged in the construction of new edifices for which timber has been brought from the buildings at Nirmal. Just now Goshamahall a century old Qutbshahi building, is being demolished¹. Man Mohan Rao Pangalia has taken to flight and the disturbances created by him have been suppressed. The Zamindar of Kandahar², a place with a fort at a distance of 60 *kos* from 'here' has rebelled because he has been replaced by one of his brothers in the zamindari. Troops have been ordered to chastise him. Mudhoji Bhonsla has died. A false rumour of Tipu's death is also in the air. Is glad that the Governor-General has sanctioned Rs. 200 per mensem (for entertaining a local agent to obtain news of this quarter). (OR 365 ; TR 27, pp 437-8, no 328 ; AR 4, p 480).

Jun. 26. **496.** From Bhawani Das Sahu³. Says that he readily carries out whatever orders are received from his lordship or from Mr Duncan and Mr Ives relating to the *hundis* from Bombay. Mr Boddam⁴, who had been well acquainted with the writer and Nagin Das, his *gumashta* at Bombay, has now resigned his post. His successor does not know the writer at all. Hopes his lordship will commend the writer and his *gumaskta* at Bombay to the favour of Mr Boddam's successor. (OR 366 ; TR 27, pp 438-9, no 329 ; AR 4, p 466).

¹ Repaired, according to the vol. of translations.

² Kandahar, taluk of Nander District, Hyderabad Deccan.

³ Brother of Gopal Das Sahu of "The Sahu family" of Benares. He settled in Calcutta and acquired a large fortune.—*Benares District Gazetteer*.

⁴ Rawson Hart Boddam. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 85, f. n. 2.

1788

- Jun. 27¹. 497. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Hopes that the Nawab will ratify the commercial treaty as soon as possible. (*CI* 20, pp 89-90, no 93 ; *AR* 4, p 553, no 158).
- Jun. 27. 498. To Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 227-8, no 228 ; *AR* 4, p 535, no 155).
- Jun. 27. 499. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 228, no 229 ; *AR* 4, p 532, no 156).
- Jun. 27. 500. To Mahabbat Khan, son of Hafiz Rahmat Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 228, no 230 ; *AR* 4, p 543, no 157).
- Jun. 28. 501. From Qutlaq Sultan Begum. Has received his letter of condolence on the sad demise of Prince Jahandar Shah. It is but natural that his lordship should be so much grieved to hear the news of the death of the Prince since the latter was so sincerely attached to him. The late Prince, depending on the friendship and support of both the Governor-General and the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah), had brought his family from Delhi (to Benares). Just before his death the Prince had written two letters, one addressed to Mr Duncan and the other to Ali Ibrahim Khan. He was desirous of writing to his lordship also but his severe pain and loss of consciousness gave him no opportunity. Particulars of his last will can be ascertained from the above-mentioned letters. Hopes the Governor-General will be kind enough to fulfil the last will of the deceased. Requests that she may not be sent back to Delhi, should the King send for her. She may be allowed to pass the rest of her life beside the tomb of her deceased husband. (*OR* 367 ; *TR* 27, pp 439-41, no 330 ; *AR* 4, p 477).
- Jun. 28. 502. From Akbar Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 368 ; *TR* 27, p 441, no 331 ; *AR* 4, p 460).

¹ June 28, according to the vol. of abstracts.

1788

Jun. 28. **503.** From Tajmahal Begam, mother of Prince Jahandar Shah. Says that her son, Prince Jahandar Shah had gone to reside with his family in the Company's territory where he died. Having foreseen his end the Prince had written with his own hand a letter as his last will to the Governor-General¹ and Mr Duncan and asked them to look after his family and not to let them be removed to Delhi. The King (Shah Alam) has now written *shuqqas* to the Governor-General and the Nawab Vazir and has asked that the family of the late Prince should be sent back to Delhi. Requests the Governor-General to act according to the late Prince's last will and to manage all the affairs of Qutlaq Sultan Begam according to her wishes. (*OR 369* ; *TR 27, pp 441-2, no 332* ; *AR 4, p 491*).

Jun. 29. **504.** From the King (Shah Alam). Is overwhelmed with grief at the sad demise of his heir-apparent, Prince Jahandar Shah. The mother of the late Prince is also greatly shocked. Her lamentation is beyond control and nothing can console her. Possibly her sorrow may subside with the arrival of the children and wife of the late Prince to her. The Governor-General is therefore asked to send immediately the coffin of the late Prince as well as his wife and children with their goods and chattels to Delhi. (*OR 370-1* ; *TR 27, pp 442-3, nos 333-4* ; *AR 4, p 475*).

Jun. 29. **505.** From Nimu Ray, *vakil* of the Zamindar of Nadia². Regrets to report the death of Raja Sheo Chand³ who died on Wednesday, 14 *Asarh*⁴ (25 June 1788). Iswar

¹ The Prince did not write to the Governor-General as is evident from letter no 501 above.

² Town and District in Bengal.

³ Raja Sheo Chand was the eldest son of Maharaja Kishan Chand. He managed the affairs of his estate with great tact and judgment. He was a profound scholar in Sanskrit and celebrated the Soma Yoga. Died at the age of 47, leaving one son and one daughter—*Nadia District Gazetteer*,

⁴ H. 4th Hindu solar month corresponding to June-July.

1788

Chand¹, the son of the late Raja, is 26 years old. He is anxious to perform the *sradh* of the late Raja but has no money. In Hindustan as also in the Deccan money is spent lavishly on *sradh* and the ryots willingly offer something to meet the expenses. The ryots of Nadia are likewise ready to contribute for this purpose. Requests that they may be permitted to do so. Also prays that a sum of Rs. 15,000 may be granted by the Company for the same purpose. (OR 372; TR 27, pp 444-5, no 335 ; AR 4, p 485).

Jun. 30. 506. From Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. Is going (back) to Burdwan as news of serious illness in his family has been received from there. For particulars refers him to his *vakil*, Brindaban Babu. Hopes to return in five or six days and pay his respects to him. (OR 373; TR 27, p 445, no 336 ; AR 4, p 464).

Jun. 30. 507. From Iswar Chand, son of Raja Shoo Chand. Reports that his father, Raja Shoo Chand, died on 14 *Asarh* (25 June 1788). Depends for protection on his lordship. Further particulars will be represented by his *vakil*, Ganga Parshad Ray. (OR 374; TR 27, p 445, no 337 ; AR 4, p 485).

Jun. 30. 508. *Extracts* from a letter of Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla² addressed to Rajaram Pandit, *Subadar* of Cuttack. Mr Forster and Mr Rind are still 'here' (at Nagpur). Correspondence with Calcutta is being maintained just as before and the Pandit should preserve the old relationship

¹ Iswar Chand was a generous and extravagant Raja, who diminished the estate to the extent of three lakhs of rupees. He died in the fifty-fifth year of his age, leaving a son and a daughter.—*Nadia District Gazetteer*.

² Raghuji II, Bhonsla Raja of Nagpur, was the eldest son of Mudhoji Bhonsla. Nominally Raghuji succeeded his adoptive father, Janoji in 1772. But he being a minor, Mudhoji, as the father of Raghuji and Sabaji as the full brother of Janoji, each contested for the regency. Sabaji with the connivance of Darya Bai, widow of Janoji, assumed the Government and subsequently got his appointment confirmed by the Ministerial party at Poona. Mudhoji took to arms and on February 26, 1775 fought a pitched battle where Sabaji was shot dead. Since then Mudhoji became regent, which office he held till his death in 1788. During the lifetime of his father, Raghuji remained in perfect submission and obedience. He assumed control of the state in 1788 and ruled till his death in March 1816.—*Nagpur District Gazetteer*.

1788

intact. The frontiers of Bengal and Cuttack adjoin in such a way that some villages of the latter territory lie beyond the river Sonbhadra¹ while some of the Company's villages in Bengal, are situated on 'this' side of that river. Mr Forster therefore suggests that these villages may be interchanged so that the river may form the boundary line between the two countries. Munshi Bhawani Pandit has already been asked in this connection to supply necessary details for adjusting any differences in the revenues from those villages. The addressee should now see that the supply of the requisite information is expedited.

Mr Forster has received a letter from Calcutta in which it is reported that one Man Gobind with 200 men fell upon the Company's servants, seized them and looted their property. This conduct of Man Gobind is contrary to the friendship existing between the Raja and the Company. The addressee should enquire into the matter, restore the looted property to the owners and inflict exemplary punishment on the culprits. (OR 375 ; TR 27, pp 445-7, no 338; AR 4, p 488).

Jun.— **509.** From Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Has received his letter informing him of the deputation of Capt. John Kennaway at his court. Expresses his satisfaction at the appointment. Says that when he has learnt the Governor-General's sentiments through the Captain he will send him a full reply and also communicate his own views through the Captain. (OR 503).

Jul. 1. **510.** (1) *The King to Qutlaq Sultan Begam.* Is grieved to learn from her letter the news of the sad demise of the heir-apparent, Prince Jahandar Shah. The mother of the Prince is also overwhelmed with grief. In this bereavement the absence of the Begam and children of the late Prince from Delhi is all the more unbearable for the parents of the deceased. The Begam should therefore hasten to

¹ Obviously the Subarnarekha is meant. There is no such river as Sonbhadra in any part of Orissa. The Hill Sonbhadra is the nominal source of the Son of Northern India.

1788

Delhi on receipt of this *shuqqa*. She should bring with her the Prince's coffin, his children and all his goods and chattels.

(2) *Qutlaq Sultan Begam to the King*. Is honoured to receive the *shuqqa* of His Majesty expressing extreme sorrow at the death of Prince Jahandar Shah and asking her to proceed to Delhi. Says that the late Prince lies buried at 'this' place (Benares). On several occasions during the private conversations between the Prince and the Begam it was agreed between them that after the death of either of the two the survivor would pass his or her life beside the tomb of the deceased. Is therefore bound not to leave 'this' place under any circumstances.

(3) *The King to Akbar Ali Khan*. To the same effect as no (1) above.

(4) *Akbar Ali Khan to the King*. To the same effect as no (2) above.

(OR 376-9, 381-2, 384-5; TR 28, pp 1-5, no 339; AR 4, p 514).

Jul. 2.

511. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam¹. The Governor General will have learnt from her previous letters the particulars of her unwillingness to go to Delhi. Has now received a *shuqqa* from His Majesty summoning her to the Capital. Encloses a copy of the *shuqqa* and her reply thereto for his lordship's information. Hopes the Governor-General would be kind enough to see that she is not removed from the city in which her husband lies buried in his tomb. The King has also written to the Governor-General and the Nawab Vazir on the same subject. Requests that his lordship may send a suitable reply to His Majesty. (OR 380; TR 28, pp 5-7, no 340; AR 4, p 505).

Jul. 2.

512. From Akbar Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 383; TR 28, pp 7-8, no 341; AR 4, p 494).

¹ At the top of this letter appears the Begam's autograph saying that now she has none to look for help except God and the Governor-General and that she hopes the latter will write a suitable reply to the King.

1788

- Jul. 2.* 513. From the mother and the widow of Raja Amrit Singh. The Governor-General is aware of their distressed circumstances due to the Raja's death. State that Sukhpat Ray son of the late Raja's sister, claims a share in their inheritance and has accordingly made a representation to his lordship. His claims are not tenable and should therefore be rejected. (*OR 386, TR 28, p 8, no 342, AR 4, p 495*).
- Jul. 2.* 514. To Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. Says that Rajaram Pandit proposes to construct a few religious houses at Benares. Requests the Maharaja therefore to afford the Pandit every facility in the accomplishment of his object. (*CI 20, p 90, no 94; AR 4, p 525, no 161*).
- Jul. 2.* 515. To Raghuji Bhonsla. Offers condolence on the death of his father, Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. (*CI 20, p 90, no 95; AR 4, p 548, no 160*).
- Jul. 3.* 516. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has just received the news that on 18 June 1788 (13 *Ramazan*¹ 1202 A. H.) an engagement took place in the vicinity of Agra between Rana Khan, the chief of Sindhia's army, and the army of Ranjit Singh Jat on one side and Ismail Beg Khan on the other. Firing from both sides continued for several hours and at last Ismail Beg was defeated. He escaped with 25 horsemen to the camp of Ghulam Qadir Khan. Agra fell to the Marathas. (*OR 387; TR 28, p 9, no 343; AR 4, p 494*).
- Jul. 3.* 517. To Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. Says that Lala Dhan Singh, a servant of Maharaja Pratap Singh of Jaipur, is proceeding, under the orders of his master, to Benares in order to repair some dilapidated religious houses there. Asks the addressee therefore to afford the Lala all possible facilities in the fulfilment of his religious mission. (*CI 20, p 239, no 232*).
- Jul. 3.* 518. To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI 20, pp 239-40, no 233; AR 4, p 532, no 162*).

¹ A. Ninth month of the lunar year.

1788

Jul. 4.

519. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Says that his son, Dilawar Jang, had been seriously ill. He has now recovered under the treatment of Dr Glass. In order to recoup his health fully he requires a change of climate and consequently he will proceed to Rajmahal and Bhagalpur¹ by boat. But it is necessary that the doctor should accompany him on his journey. Requests that the Governor-General will kindly permit Dr Glass to do so. (*OR* 388 ; *TR* 28, pp 9-10, no 344 ; *AR* 4, p 509).

Jul. 4.²

520. *Notification.* The Governor-General in Council thought it proper to give public notification on 16 January last, that should the means then adopted³ for reducing the price of salt prove ineffectual, the Governor-General in Council would determine upon such other measures as might be judged necessary for the purpose.

The unfavourable season, together with other causes having contributed to maintain the price at the same high level, and having prevented the arrival of the necessary supplies in the market, the Governor-General in Council has determined on the importation of a quantity of salt from the Northern Circars or the Coast of Coromandel⁴ in order to obviate any distress which the public might suffer from the continuance of the present high price of this necessary article of food. Notice is therefore given that the Governor-General in Council will receive proposals of contract for the delivery of any quantity of salt, the produce of the Northern Circars or the Coast of Coromandel, not exceeding three lakhs of maunds of eighty sicca weight per seer, under the following conditions :—

1. It should be delivered to the Salt Agent at Hijili, at any of the *golas* he may think proper to direct within the limits of that district.

¹ Town and district in Bihar.

² July 3, in the volume of copies.

³ An additional sale was held on March 1, 1788 with a view to increasing the supply of salt in the market and bringing down its price.

⁴ East coast of Madras Presidency.

2. The quantity contracted for to be delivered on or before the 1st November next.

3. It should be of a good marketable quality and any quantity tendered not answering to this description would be rejected by the Salt Agent at Hijili.

4. It will be paid for in certificates. One half of the amount contracted for will be advanced on signing the contract, one fourth on the delivery of half of the quantity of salt, and the balance will be paid on completing the delivery of the whole quantity.

5. The contractor shall have to pay a penalty of 30 per cent on the contract price of the quantity not delivered by the period prescribed.

6. Two reliable sureties are to be given for the amount of advances, and for the payment of the penalty for the quantity not delivered within the stipulated time.

7. Sealed proposals superscribed 'Proposals for the delivery of salt, the produce of the Northern Circars or the Coast of Coromandel' will be received by the Secretary to the Government on or before the 15th instant. (*CI 20, pp 234-6, no 231 A*).

Jul. 4. **521.** To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Is glad to hear of the convalescence of his son Nawab Dilawar Jang. Says that he has no objection to Dr Glass's accompanying his son to Rajmahal or Bhagalpur wherever the latter proposes to go for a change of climate. (*CI 20, pp 240-1, no 234 ; AR 4, p 542, no 163*).

Jul. 5. **522.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. The benevolence of his lordship is well known. The Nawab in compliance with the Governor-General's wishes is endeavouring hard somehow to discharge his debts out of his own allowance of Rs. 1,16,333 which is hardly sufficient to meet the expenses of his family. After curtailing his expenses whatever can be saved from his stipend will be

appropriated for the payment of old debts. His lordship knows that the Nawab's resources are small and the debts contracted during the administration of others are heavy. All the creditors therefore cannot be paid every month. Has accordingly resolved to accumulate the monthly savings for a period of four months, and make three payments in the course of one year. Will give each of his creditors bond under his own seal and signature inserting the *qist-bandi* in it, so that they may receive their money from the *Nizamat* Treasury by regular instalments. In this manner they will be relieved of their anxiety and the Nawab will not be distressed by their importunities. Thus, it is hoped, in the course of a few years the whole debt will be liquidated. When the account is fully settled the Nawab will represent particulars to his lordship. (OR 389-90; TR 28, pp 10-13, no 345 ; AR 4, p 509).

- Jul. 5. 523. To Tipu Sultan. Is astonished to learn from the Governor of Madras that the Raja of Cherikal (Chirakkal¹) has dared to insult² the Company's settlement at Tellicherry³ on the coast of Malabar⁴. Has issued orders for the punishment of the contumacious Raja and hopes the Sultan will approve of the measures taken. As the Raja is a vassal of the Sultan it is hoped that he will force him to make full reparation for the outrages committed by him. Says that ever since his arrival as the head

¹ Taluk in Malabar District, Madras.

² Probably the reference is to the Raja's seizing the island of Darmapattanam which has been in the undisturbed possession of the E. I. Coy. since 1733.—*Malabar District Gazetteer*.

³ Town and port in Malabar District, Madras, 42 miles north of Calicut. The East India Company established a factory here in 17th century with the object of commanding the pepper trade of North Malabar. The site was granted by the Kolattiri Raja in 1683 or 1684. In 1708 the Raja was induced to build the Tellicherry fort which he handed over to the Company for the protection of their factory which became the principal British trading station on the west coast. At present Tellicherry ranks the third port of Malabar.

⁴ Malabar, or 'the land of hills' is perhaps the most beautiful and certainly one of the richest and most fertile of the districts of Madras, lying on the west coast of the Presidency. Its ancient name was Kerala, which included also the district of South Kanara and the states of Cochin and Travancore. Calicut, Tellicherry, Palghat, Cannanore, Cochin, Badagara and Ponnani are the chief towns of Malabar.

of the Company's administrations in India he has most scrupulously observed the treaties and has conducted himself towards the princes of Hindustan according to the principles of moderation and justice and that it is his earnest desire to live in tranquillity and friendship with them. By the blessings of God the forces under his command are sufficient to enable him to obtain satisfaction for all injuries that may be offered by the enemies to the Company or their friends and allies. Hopes for friendly letters. (*CI 20, pp 91-2, no 96 ; AR 4, p 551, no 164*).

Jul. 6 524. Enclosures from the Resident at Lucknow. *Intelligence* (1) Shujjan Khan¹ and Mirza Gul Beg² have sent word that it would be better if His Majesty is made to leave the Capital and that all his effects must be sold and the proceeds distributed to the sepoy, or he should be made to abdicate in favour of Prince Mirza Akbar Shah. Such an opportunity may not come again. The King has disgraced many of his ministers and will be doing the same thing in future. It would be better to remove him. A reply (supposed to have been written by Nazir Manzur Ali³) has been sent to Shujjan Khan saying that he (the Nazir) had never done any wrong to anybody and that such action on his part now would disgrace him throughout the country.

Shujjan Khan is insisting that whatever is to be done must be done either to-day or to-morrow. He is a soldier. Whatever may happen to him will happen. Such is his attitude but nothing has been decided yet.

(2) Ganga Bishan, a representative of the *Surkh Paltan*⁴, with forty *tilangas*⁵ came to Ram Ratan and demanded the *Paltan's* salaries. They had a hot discussion for two

¹ Probably Shujaat Khan Rohilla.

² A nobleman of the royal court who had turned against the King.

³ According to the vol. of translations.

⁴ Lit. 'red battalion', the imperial guards.

⁵ H. a native of Tilang or the Carnatic from where the first Indian soldiers dressed and disciplined after the European fashion were raised, hence it came to denote a sepoy, a soldier.

1788

hours and in the end two companies of *Najibs*¹, who are in alliance with the *Surkh Paltan*, dragged Ram Ratan to the fort. The men of Nawab Nazir (Manzur Ali) hold themselves in readiness at his *deorhi* while he himself is inside his residence. The *qiladars* have received orders from His Majesty not to permit any of the Nawab's armed retainers to enter the fort with arms. The *qiladars* are accordingly on guard at the gate of the fort. (OR 391 ; TR 28, pp 14-15, no 346 ; AR 4, p 504).

Jul. 7. 525. From Beniram Pandit. Says that Bhawani Pandit having performed his pilgrimage at Gaya is on his way back to Nagpur. Is grateful for the Governor-General's kindness towards him. Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla passed away on 12 *Shaban* (19 May 1788) after an illness of 8 days. The grief of the well-wishers of the deceased is beyond description. May God save Raghuji Bhonsla who has succeeded to the *raj*². He is endowed with all the good qualities of a ruler. He always took an active part in the administration of important affairs of the government during the lifetime of the late Raja. Hari Bhadar Pandit will explain particulars relating to the custom of condolence as is desirable on this occasion. Bishambhar Pandit will also attend on his lordship at an early date ; he offers his compliments. (OR 392 ; TR 28, pp 15-16, no 347 ; AR 4, p 496).

Jul. 7. 526. From Saadat Ali Khan. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter. He recently paid a visit to the house of the late Prince Jahandar Shah and found that the Begam Sahiba, widow of the Prince, is very anxious to hear his lordship's decision respecting her stay in ' this ' territory.

¹ Lit. means " noble " the *najabis* were irregular infantry who disdained uniform and the carrying of muskets. Their arms were a match lock, or blunderbuss and a sword. They disliked to stand sentry or do any fatiguing duty, considering it their only business to fight and to protect the person of their prince. They were excellent swordsmen. Irvine : *Army of the Indian Moghuls*.

² Mudhoji, technically speaking, was only a regent. Raghuji had been adopted by Janoji. See footnote to no 508 above.

The Khan on his part has given her every consolation. But her anxiety deserves early attention. Hopes the Governor-General will inform her of his decision soon. (*OR* 393 ; *TR* 28, *p* 16, *no* 348 ; *AR* 4, *p* 518).

Jul. 7. **527.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Is anxious for not having received any letter from his lordship. Sends some mangoes for him. (*OR* 394 ; *TR* 28, *pp* 16-17, *no* 349 ; *AR* 4, *p* 509).

Jul. 7. **528.** To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has received her letter. Is grieved to learn of her affliction at the untimely death of her dear husband, Prince Jahandar Shah. As this is the inevitable end of all mortals, asks her to be patient and resigns herself to the will of God. At the present moment when the King is overwhelmed with grief, it is but proper for his consolation that the family of the deceased Prince should be with him. Advises the Begam therefore to repair with her sons to Delhi as soon as practicable. (*CI* 20, *pp* 94-6, *no* 98 ; *AR* 4, *p* 537, *no* 165).

Jul. 7. **529.** To Nawab Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, *pp* 96-8, *no* 99 ; *AR* 4, *p* 524, *no* 166).

Jul. 9. **530.** From Mahadaji Sindhia. The Governor-General will be delighted to learn that the rebels have been totally routed. Ismail Beg and his followers took to flight. All his (Ismail Beg's) baggage and artillery fell into his hands. Full particulars of this victory must have reached his lordship through newspapers as also through the letters of Major Palmer. The rebel (Ismail Beg) may perhaps seek an asylum in the Company's territory. Requests his lordship that he may be punished if he enters into the Company's territory. (*OR* 395 ; *TR* 28, *pp* 17-18, *no* 350 ; *AR* 4, *p* 519).

Jul. 9. **531.** From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Is delighted to receive his letter on the subject of the Prince's affairs. Haidar Beg Khan also reported everything his lordship had told him during his interviews at Calcutta and at

Lucknow. Is grateful for his kindness and always anxious to comply with all his desires. Has already issued orders for the payment of the *peshkash* to the Prince in sicca rupees of Calcutta as requested by Mr Ives. (OR 397 ; TR 28, pp 21-2, no 352 ; AR 4, p 520).

Jul. 9. **532.** From Haidar Beg Khan. Is honoured to receive his lordship's letter on the subject of (the grant of *peshkash* to) Prince Jahandar Shah and is pleased to learn the several instances given therein of his kindness towards the Nawab Vazir. The circumstances connected with the Prince's arrival at Lucknow, the arrangements of sending him back to Delhi and his return to ' this ' quarter again, have been satisfactorily explained by his lordship. His keen interest in the affairs of the Vazir is also evident from the facts that the amount of *peshkash* previously sanctioned (for the Prince) has now been reduced and that his residence has been fixed at Benares instead of at Lucknow and also that in these critical times when the King is surrounded by rebels the Vazir is enjoying peace and prosperity under his (Governor-General's) protection. Has already communicated these particulars to the Nawab Vazir who is fully conscious of his lordship's sincerity. Prior to the arrival of his lordship's letter the Vazir had sanctioned the grant of *peshkash* to the Prince as was desired by the Governor-General in his letter to Mr Ives. The Vazir had gone to Fyzabad¹ and Bahraich² and hence the delay that occurred in writing this letter. (OR 396 ; TR 28, pp 18-21, no 351 ; AR 4, p 503).

Jul. 9. **533.** From Hasan Riza Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter saying that the particulars of the Prince's arrival in this (the Vazir's) country and the grounds for fixing a *peshkash* for him were discussed between him and Amirud-Daulah Nawab Haidar Beg Khan when the latter visited Calcutta and also when his lordship was at Lucknow. Has also learnt how with a view to removing the

¹ Town and district in United Provinces, former capital of Oudh.

² Town and district in United Provinces.

1788

difficulties of the Nawab Vazir his lordship reduced the amount of the *peshkash* which used to be paid and transferred the Prince's residence from the Vazir's dominions to the Company's territory. The writer has been desired to communicate the above-mentioned particulars to the Nawab Vazir and to settle the *peshkash* in the manner proposed in the letter of Mr Ives. Says that Haidar Beg Khan has communicated to the Vazir every particular of his conversation at Calcutta. His lordship must have known from Mr Ives' letter that prior to the receipt of his letter the business respecting the Prince had been adjusted according to the Governor-General's advice. Offers thanks on behalf of the Nawab and prays to be honoured with frequent letters. (OR 401; TR 28, pp 23-4, no 354 ; AR 4, p 504).

- Jul. 9. **534.** From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Is much grieved to hear the news of the sad demise of Prince Jahandar Shah. Encloses copies of the King's *shuqqa* and of the letter of the Prince's Begam which have been received by him. Requests the Governor-General to suggest an answer to both these letters on the subject of (sending back to Delhi) the Begam and her children.

Enclosures.—(1) *The King to the Nawab Vazir Asafud-Daulah.* Asks the Vazir that the coffin as well as the widow and children of the late Prince Jahandar Shah should be sent to Delhi without delay. (*Vide* no 504 above).

(2) *The widow of Prince Jahandar Shah to the Vazir.* Requests that she should not be sent back to Delhi on any account. (*Vide* no 501 above). (OR 398-400 ; TR 28, pp 22-23, no 353 ; AR 4, p 520).

- Jul. 9. **535.** From Raja Ram Kishan of Rajshahi. Represents that he never neglected to pay to the Government the revenue of the zamindari of Rajshahi which is recorded in the name of his mother, Rani Bhawani. Last year owing to the disturbances created by the ryots he fell in arrears for nearly five lakhs of rupees out of which three lakhs were received by the *gumashtas* who have

already been produced before the Collector. Says that it is an established custom of this country that when people who have actually collected the revenue are produced the balance is written off as received. Besides this, a sum of nearly Rs. 2,73,000 is due to him from the Company on account of *mushahara*. But instead of carrying this amount to his credit, *parganas* Swaruppur¹, Rajapur, and about fourteen other *parganas* of his hereditary property have been sold. Says that it was never the practice of the former *Nazims* to sell a zamindari for arrears. A proclamation has also been issued by the Collector for the sale of *pargana* Naldi² and Shahpur. This has reduced him to distress. He has lost the confidence of the ryots, *mahajans* and his friends. His *mahals* have been put under distraint and his *mushahara* has been sequestrated. Thus he has been deprived of the means of paying off his balances. Says that an *arzi* for the issue of the *sanad* of zamindari in his name is before the Council who ordered an enquiry to be made in the case. The report has been delivered to the *Khalisa*. Hopes that his lordship will read the report and issue orders to the *Khalisa* to prepare a *sanad* in his name so that his credit may be re-established with the *mahajans* and the ryots. Will pay the arrears in specie in accordance with his lordship's orders. Petitions that the sale of his hereditary zamindari may be postponed until the orders for the *sanad* of zamindari are issued in his name and also that an enquiry may be made about the above-mentioned balance. (*OR* 402 ; *TR* 28, pp 24-6, no 355 ; *AR* 4, p 517).

- Jul. 9. 536. *Notification*. The Governor-General in Council has thought it proper to make the following alterations in the advertisement for proposals relating to the delivery of salt manufactured in the Northern Circars or the Coast of Coromandel, published on the 4th instant (no 520 above).

¹ *Pargana* in Rangpur District, Bengal.

² *Pargana* in Bhushna zamindari of Rajshahi. This *pargana* is situated in the district of Jessore. Bhushna was transferred to Raja Rama Kishan's grandfather, Ram Jiban, after suppression of Sitaram Ray.

1. The period for receiving tender is extended to 15 August and the period for the delivery of the salt to 1 December next.

2. The contractor shall not be subject to the payment of penalty on any deficiency in his deliveries occasioned by losses at sea provided that it shall be proved by the bills of lading that the missing quantity had been shipped for delivery in Bengal.

3. In order to prevent any loss being sustained by the contractor on account of any surplus quantity which he may import with a view to making good the wastage during the voyage, any contractor who may have a surplus quantity of salt remaining on hand after having completed the deliveries shall be allowed the contract price for such surplus, provided it shall not exceed 6 maunds for every hundred maunds of the contracted amount.

4. Salt is to be delivered to the Controller of Salt at the *golas* at Kutganj near Mr Fenwick's¹ garden and in case of there not being sufficient *golas* to store the salt at that place the remaining quantity is to be delivered at Rishra² where the salt imported by the French is at present deposited.

5. It should be of a good marketable quality and any quantity tendered not answering to this description, will be rejected by the Controller.

6. It is to be delivered at the rate of 82 *sicca* weight to the seer.

7. The vessels on which salt is imported shall stop at Kukrahati³ where they will receive *rawanas* from the *gumashta* of the Controller of Salt stationed at that place who will fill up the blanks in the *rawana* giving the name of the vessel and the amount of the salt cargo. These *rawanas* will serve as passport to bring up the salt to the

¹ For biographical note see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 157 f. n. 1.

² Town near Serampore in Hooghly District. Ichra, according to the vol. of copies.

³ A village on the Hooghly in Midnapore District, Bengal, opposite Diamond Harbour.

1788

place of delivery. Any vessel attempting to pass Kuk-rahati without a *rawana* will be confiscated together with its cargo. (*CI 20, pp 236-9, no 231 B*).

- Jul. 9. **537.** To Maharaja Kalyan Singh. Has received his letter. Says that he (the Governor-General) will be glad to receive him whenever he may come. (*CI 20, p 241, no 235*).
- Jul. 9. **538.** To Kunwar Daulat Singh, son of Maharaja Kalyan Singh. To the same effect as the foregoing (*CI 20, p 241 no 236*).
- Jul. 9. **539.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges with thanks the receipt of his present of mangoes sent through Mir Kamalud-Din Husain. (*CI 20, pp 241-2, no 237*; *AR 4, p 539, no 170*).
- Jul. 11. **540.** To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has received his several letters, one enclosing copies of two letters addressed to the Nawab by the Raja of Nepal and the others intimating the news of the defeat of Mirza Ismail Beg and the success of the Maratha army along with other particulars. As regards the reply to be sent to the Raja's letters the Governor-General has written about his views to Mr Duncan who will communicate them to the addressee. (*CI 20, pp 242-3, no 238*; *AR 4, p 523, no 171*).
- Jul. 11. **541.** To the Deb Raja. Says that a *vakil* on the part of the Zamindar of Baikunthpur, who is for a long time waiting on him, has brought certain charges against the Raja in respect of his boundaries. Desires the Raja therefore to send a *vakil* to Messrs Mercer and Chauvet at Cooch Behar for the settlement of the dispute between him and the said zamindar¹. (*CI 20, p 243, no 240*; *AR 4, no 172*).

¹ On 9 July 1788 Messrs Chauvet and Mercer were directed to proceed immediately to the confines of the Deb Raja and the zamindar of Baikunthpur and deliver over to the former such districts as were adjudged to him by the resolution of the Governor-General in Council of 21 May 1779. That resolution ordered the cession of 'Chanpadanga etc., part of Kyranty, Taraf Falakatah, Taraf Bushandanga together with Jalpesh, Soonai, Dabri etc.' to the Deb Raja.—*Cooch Behar Select Records* (1882), Vol. I, pp 8-10.

1788

Jul. 11. 542. To the Zamindar of Baikunthpur. Has learnt from his *vakil* the particulars of his charges against the Deb Raja. Asks him to send a person as his representative to Messrs Mercer and Chauvet who have been deputed to Cooch Behar for the settlement of this dispute between the addressee and the Raja. (CI 20, p 243, no 240 ; AR 4, p. 528, no. 172).

Jul. 12. 543. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Is happy to learn from his lordship's letter that permission has been granted to Glass to accompany his son, Dilawar Jang. (OR 403 ; TR 28, pp 26-7, on 356 ; AR 4, p 509).

Jul. 12. 544. From Raja Iswar Chand, Zamindar of Nadia. Says that a sum of Rs 7,600 having fallen in arrear on account of *pargana* Aukeherah¹ an advertisement for the sale of *pargana* Kubajpur² pertaining to this zamindari was issued by the *Khalisa*. The writer on hearing of this sale, immediately paid a sum of Rs 7,200 to Mr Meyer (Preparer of Reports, Revenue Department) and offered to pay the balance of Rs 400 when required. Mr Meyer paid no attention to his representations and sold the *pargana*. Requests the Governor-General to order an enquiry into the case and to postpone the issuing of the *sanad* to the purchaser till the receipt of the report of the said enquiry.

Represents that the *parganas* of Aukeherah, etc. were during 1190 and 1191 Bengali (1783-5) under the collection of Mr Henry Vansittart³. In 1192 and 1193 Bengali (1785-7) these *parganas* were given in farm to his deceased father. At the end of 1193 Bengali a sum of Rs 78,000 was shown outstanding against this zamindari. In order to

¹ *Pargana* in Nadia District. Aukeherah or Aukerah was the official denomination of the zamindari of Nadia in the *Khalisa* Records.

² *Pargana* in Nadia District.

³ Henry Vansittart was the son of H. Vansittart, Governor of Bengal (1760-64). He entered the Company's service on the Bengal Establishment and was for some time Collector of Revenue at Nadia. He was the Collector of Salt Revenue at the time of his death in Calcutta on Oct. 7, 1786.—*Bengal: Past and present*, Vol. XXVIII, p 213.

realise that amount the *pargana* of Matiarī¹ belonging to the writer has now been advertised for sale. The fact is that when his father held the farm it was agreed that he should receive a remission of Rs 22,000 annually. By this calculation the sum of Rs 44,000 for the two years should be deducted from the balance now claimed. This contention can be verified from Government records. Is willing to pay whatever amount is actually found to be due from him by mortgaging one of the *mahals* of his zamindari. Requests the Governor-General therefore to order the postponement of the sale.

Says that during the administration of the former *Nazims* and ever since the establishment of the Company's government the writer's ancestors supported themselves on the income of *birt*², *khamar*³ and *bahla*⁴ which amounted to Rs 3,57,000 a year. But all these sources of income were stopped in 1178 *Fasli* (1771-2 A.D.) and in lieu thereof a *mushahara* of two lakhs of rupees was sanctioned for the maintenance of his father. In 1193 *Bengali* (1786-7) this *mushahara* was also totally stopped. The writer in order to support himself and his dependants has incurred large debts and is passing his days in misery. His creditors are pressing him for their money. Requests that an adequate allowance may be granted to him so that he may discharge his debts, support himself and his dependants and maintain the dignity of his house. (OR 404 ; TR 28, pp 27-30, no 357 ; AR 4, p 515).

Jul. 14. 545. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter expressing grief at the untimely death of Prince Jahandar Shah and enclosing copies of letters received by him from Qutlaq Sultan Begam and His Majesty regarding

¹ *Pargana* in Nadia District.

² H. grant or endowment to a person for his maintenance or for religious and charitable objects. Sanskrit *Vritti*.

³ B. Lands, the ryots of which do not pay money-rent but divide the produce at certain rates of share with the zamindar.

⁴ P. Privy purse ; funds appropriated to the support of the ladies or other members of the family of a Nawab.

1788

the family of the deceased. The Governor-General has also received their letters on the same subject. Encloses for the Nawab's information copies of the letters he has written to them in reply. Says that it is his earnest desire to relieve the Nawab of his financial embarrassments and with this end in view, suggests that so long as the Begam remains at Benares the Nawab should provide only that much of her expenses as are absolutely necessary and that she should be advised to avoid all superfluous expenses. (*CI 20, pp 98-9, no 100 ; AR 4, p 553, no 175*).

Jul. 14. **546.** To Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI 20, p 100, no 101; AR 4, p 535, no 176*).

Jul. 14. **547.** To the King. Has received his *shuqqa* commanding him to send Qutlaq Sultan Begam and her sons to Delhi. Says that the Begam is so overwhelmed with grief at her recent bereavement that she is quite unable to undertake a journey at present. Owing to this fact as well as to the present rainy season, the Governor-General did not think it proper to press the Begam to obey His Majesty's command. Hopes to receive letters frequently. (*CI 20, pp 101-2, no 104 ; AR 4, p 537, no 177*).

Jul. 14. **548.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Informs him that with a view to facilitating trade and commerce the Government Customs at Murshidabad have been abolished. (*CI 20, pp 100-1, no 102 ; AR 4, p 539, no 174*).

Jul. 15. **549.** Copy of a commercial treaty between Nawab Asafud-Daulah and the Company concluded in 1788¹. It provides for the levy at Benares, Gorakhpur², etc. of an *ad valorem* duty on goods and prohibits the levy of transit duties by landholders and others. (*CI 20, pp 105-12, no 107*).

¹ C. U. Aitchison : *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, Vol. II, pp 120-4 (Fifth edition).

² Town and district in United Provinces.

1788

- Jul. 16.* **550.** From Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. Thanks the Governor-General for the permission he has granted to Babu Sarabjit Singh to return to Benares. Hopes to be favoured with letters. (*OR 405 ; TR 28, p 32, no 359 ; AR 4, p 497*).
- Jul. 16.* **551.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Benares. Is glad to learn from the letter of Mirza Ali Naqi Khan about the sentiments of the Governor-General towards the writer. Is busy heart and soul in the discharge of his duties of *adalats* and in looking after the welfare and prosperity of the inhabitants of Benares. Says that the very day the Prince (Jahandar Shah) died the Khan as well as Mr Duncan transmitted the copy of the last testament of the deceased to the Governor-General. Encloses now the original will for his perusal. (*OR 406 ; TR 28, p 32, no 360 ; AR 4, p 494*).
- Jul. 16.* **552.** Prince Jahandar Shah¹ to Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Benares. Says that owing to extreme pain he is lying in a precarious condition. Requests the Khan not to send his family to Delhi if, in case of his death, the King should send for them. (*OR 407 ; TR 28, p 33, no 360 ; AR 4, p 494*).
- Jul. 16.* **553.** From Raja Uttam Chand, *vakil* of Nawab Faizullah Khan. Says that owing to his protracted illness he has become very weak and that he has therefore moved to Lucknow for a change of climate. (*OR 408 ; TR 28, p 33, no 361 ; AR 4, p 516*).
- Jul. 16.* **554.** From Raja Madho Singh², Zamindar of *sarkar Tirhut*³. Is sorry to inform the Governor-General that

¹ This is the autograph which was scrawled by the Prince on his death-bed.

² Madho Singh succeeded to the zamindari of Darbhanga in 1776. The settlement of *sarkar Tirhut* was concluded with him in 1782. He died in 1808.—W. W. Hunter : *Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XIII.

³ A former district of Bengal, separated in 1875 into the two districts of Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga. The name is still loosely applied to Muzaffarpur.

this year the number of cattle has been much reduced in consequence of murrain prevailing among them. This unfortunate event has caused great distress among the ryots of his zamindari. Has therefore asked the Collector of the district to grant *tagavi* loans to the ryots for the purchase of bullocks. Requests the Governor-General also to direct the Collector to accede to his request. Promises to repay the *tagavi* along with the *gist* of 1196 *Fasli* (1788-9). (OR 409; TR 28, pp 33-4, no 362; AR 4, p 512).

Jul. 16. 555. From Maharaja Radha Nath, Zamindar of Dinajpur. Intimates that he celebrated *punia* on 12 *Asarh* 1195 Bengali (23 June 1788). Sends a *nazr* on the occasion. Is busy collecting revenues for the Company. Will pay the *punia gist* agreeably to the *gistbandi*. Hopes to be favoured with letters. (OR 410 ; TR 28, p 34, no 363 ; AR 4, p 500).

Jul. 16. 556. From Rai Ram Kanta, *Diwan* of Dinajpur. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 411 ; TR 28, p 35, no 364 ; AR 4, p 500).

Jul. 16. 557. From Shambhu Chand, uncle of the Zamindar of Nadia. Represents that in 1186 Bengali (1779-80) his brother, Raja Sheo Chand, submitted a petition under the seal of his deceased father and by a false representation appropriated the entire zamindari to himself. Since that time the writer has annually been presenting petitions to the Governor-General claiming his rights to the zamindari but all in vain. The incapacity of his brother, Raja Sheo Chand, will be evident from the fact that some time back a *band-o-bast* for two years was made with him on condition that if he failed to discharge his obligations to the Company, he would be removed from the management of the zamindari. But at the end of that period a sum of Rs 2,50,000 was outstanding against him. Several other agreements of the like nature were made with his brother from time to time but none was fulfilled by him. Sheo Chand is now

1788

dead and his son, Iswar Chand, who is mentally unsound¹ is not fit for the management of the zamindari affairs. Requests the Governor-General therefore to bestow the zamindari upon him. He on his part promises to restore the country to prosperity and to pay the government revenue regularly. (*OR* 412 ; *TR* 28, pp 35-7, no 365 ; *AR* 4, p 515).

Jul. 16. 558. From Beniram Pandit. Says that he has already transmitted a letter to the Governor-General notifying the death of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla. Encloses now two letters, one from Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla, the son and successor of the deceased, and the other from Mr George Forster. Bishambhar Pandit will shortly pay a visit to the Governor-General. (*OR* 414 ; *TR* 28, pp 38-9, no 367 ; *AR* 4, p 496).

Jul. 16. 559. From Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Laments the death of his father, Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla, and says that the Governor-General must have learnt of his bereavement through newspapers as also from the letter of Mr Forster. Refers him to Beniram Pandit and Bishambhar Pandit for particulars. (*OR* 413 ; *TR* 28, p 37, no 366 ; *AR* 4, p 517).

Jul. 16. 560. From Munni Begam. Says that the zeal and attachment shown to the Company by the late Nawab, Mir Muhammad Jafar Khan, in their war against Sirajud-Daulah are well known in Bengal, nay throughout India. In recognition of the services of the late Nawab it is but proper that the English nation in general and the Governor-General in particular should look after the interests and prosperity of his family. On the death of Nawab Mir Jafar his son, Nawab Najmud-Daulah² with the assistance of the English was installed on the *masnad*³ and a sum of Rs 53,86,131 annually was fixed for the expenses of the *Nizamat*.

¹ Iswar Chand was very generous and extravagant but not mentally deficient.

² Nawab of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa (1765-66).

³ A. seat of state or throne.

1788

During the time of both Nawab Mir Jafar and Nawab Najmud-Daulah the writer had the sole charge of the household affairs and all disbursements were made by her. Several profitable *mahals*, such as, the *khas* taluk etc. were attached to her *deorhi*. During the time of Nawab Saifud-Daulah¹ the *Nizamat* stipend was first fixed at Rs 41,86,131 but this was later reduced to Rs 32,00,000. In 1179 Bengali (1772-3 A.D.) this stipend was further reduced to Rs 16,00,000. About this time Mr Hastings paid a visit to Murshidabad and the writer represented all particulars to him. This gentleman was well acquainted with the affairs of this country and with the family of late Nawab Mir Jafar. When he learnt all about her expenses he settled 1,40,000 rupees on her, exclusive of the *Nizamat* stipend. With this amount she managed somehow to maintain herself and the dependants of the deceased Nawab (Mir Jafar). Afterwards some new gentlemen² arrived from England and great animosities prevailed in the Council with the consequence that some people of this country also were drawn into the vortex and consequently the *mushahara* of the writer, for no fault of hers, was totally stopped in 1182 Bengali (1775-6). By the stoppage of this allowance the dependants of the deceased Nawabs (Mir Jafar and Najmud-Daulah) have been subjected to great hardships. The writer, unable to bear the distress, represented all the particulars verbally to Mr Hastings who assured her that he had recommended her case to the Board of Directors and hoped to get the allowance restored to her. But Mr Hastings left for Europe before the receipt of any reply from there. Has up till now managed to support her numerous dependants by contracting loans and by selling her effects but no visible sign of the restoration of her allowance is forthcoming while her debts are daily increasing. She has no alternative now but to represent her case to the Governor-

¹ Nawab of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa (1766-70).

² Reference evidently is to Clavering, Monson and Francis.

1788

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¹ Nawab of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa (1766-70).

² Reference evidently is to Clavering, Monson and Francis.

1788

General. Requests the restoration of her former *mushahara* of Rs 1,40,000 so that she may be able to support her dependants and maintain the dignity of the *Nizamat*. Says that Nawab Saidul-Mulk¹, who is a grandson (daughter's son) of Nawab Mir Jafar's daughter and whom the writer has adopted and brought up as her own son, has now come of age. He has none to look up to as his supporter except the Company. Requests therefore that a suitable allowance may be granted to him for his maintenance. (*OR* 415).

Jul. 16. 561. Newspaper delivered by Bhagwant Rao. Raiji Patel, Jivba Dada Bakhshi, Bapuji Janardan and other chiefs with De Boigne's² battalion and Mons. Lesteneau marched under the command of Rana Khan Bhai to engage Ismail Beg Khan who was near Agra 5 *kos* away from the camp of Sindhia's forces. An engagement took place on 13 *Ramazan* (18 June 1788 A.D.) from daybreak for about two hours. Then Rana Khan divided his army into four parties and rushed on Ismail Beg's troops from four sides. The latter's battalions were cut to pieces and his artillery was captured. Ismail Beg accompanied by 10 or 20 horsemen crossed the Jumna and went to Ghulam Qadir Khan. His whole army was routed and plundered. The victors found a ford after four or five days and they also crossed the river. At Muttra³ bridges of boats were built and from there also Sindhia's troops crossed over and marched into Ghulam Qadir Khan's country in the Doab. Ghulam Qadir Khan himself is at Aligarh. Ismail Beg is said to have joined him. About 100 pieces of cannon, 13 elephants, camels, horses, etc. and the *topkhana* have fallen into the hands of Sindhia's troops. Sindhia will cross the Chambal in a day or two. He will march to Muttra. Ali Baha-

¹ His personal name was Husain Ali Khan.

² De Boigne, Benoit, Count Savoyard, general in Sindhia's service. Born 8 March 1751. Died 21 June 1830.

³ City and Cantonment in Agra Division, United Provinces. Sacred as the birth place of Krishna.

dur has arrived at Dhar¹ and Tukoji Holkar has reached Indore². (OR 416 ; TR 28, pp 42-4, no 369 ; AR 4, p 497).

Jul. 16. 562. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that he has taken upon himself the payment of balances which occurred during the administration of others and has settled a plan to liquidate them by instalments. In fact, he has already paid 2 lakhs of rupees on this account. But Khadim Ali Khan is trying to create confusion in the *Nizamat* affairs. He urges all the *tankhwahdars*³ to demand their wages all at once. Although he knows that the writer is under the protection of the Company and his lordship yet owing to his quarrelsome and evil disposition he (Khadim Ali Khan) instigates the people of the *Nizama* to create trouble. Desires to dismiss such a person and to appropriate his allowance to the discharge of the balances. Hopes his lordship will communicate his sentiments in this matter. (OR 417 ; TR 28, pp 44-5, no 370 ; AR 4, p 509).

Jul. 16. 563. From Raja Ram Kishan, Zamindar of Rajshahi. Says that an order has been issued for the sale of the *parganas* Naldi and Santore⁴ by public auction for the balances outstanding against him. Is ready to pay up the balances but he has no money in his possession. Has therefore asked the *mahajans* for money on loan but they will have no confidence in him till his appeal against the order is decided in his favour. Hopes therefore that the Governor-General will postpone the sale, until such time as his case is decided. Will pay the balances by borrowing money from the bankers. (OR 418 ; TR 28, pp 45-6, no 371 ; AR 4, p 517).

¹ Town and state in Central India.

² Capital of the state of the same name in Central India Agency ruled by Holkar.

³ P. a holder of an order for wages, etc. or an assignment by the ruling authority upon the revenue of any particular locality in payment of wages, pay, gratuity or pension, or in repayment of advances, or any specified head of charge.

⁴ *Pargana* in Bhushna in Jessore District, Bengal.

1788

- Jul. 16. **564.** To Nawab Saadat Ali Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter about the death of Prince Jawan Bakht Jahandar Shah. (*CI* 20, p 101, no 103 ; *AR* 4, p 550, no 178).
- Jul. 19. **565.** From Zainud-Din and other zamindars of Purnea. Remind him of their representations against the Collector of their district, Mr Douglas¹, and *Diwan* Bahadur Singh. Mr Meyer, who was appointed to enquire into the case, has already submitted his report. Request a favourable decision of their case (*OR* 419).
- Jul. 21. **566.** From the King. Has received his '*arzi*'. Accepts the *nazr* of 101 gold mohurs which the addressee has sent with congratulations on the occasion of the commencement of the *Sahibqiran* year. Hopes to receive frequent letters. (*OR* 420 ; *TR* 28, p 46, no 372 ; *AR* 4, p 507).
- Jul. 21. **567.** To Mahadaji Sindhia. Has received his letter. Is exceedingly pleased to hear of the notable victory gained by the addressee's troops over the forces of Ismail Beg Khan. Refers him to Major Palmer for particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 102-3, no 105 ; *AR* 4, p 550, no 179).
- Jul. 21. **568.** To Nawab Taj Mahal, mother of Prince Jahan-dar Shah. Has received her letter forbidding him to send the family of the late Prince to Delhi in obedience to His Majesty's command and directing him to act agreeably to the wishes of Qutlaq Sultan Begam and Nawab Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan. Says that the Begam thinks it her duty to comply with the commands of His Majesty but she is unable to undertake the journey at the present moment owing to her great affliction as also to the present rainy season. Hopes to be favoured with letters. (*CI* 20, pp 103-4, no 106 ; *AR* 4, p 552, no 180).

¹ J. W. Douglas, Collector of Purnea (1787-8).—*Dinajpur District Records*.

1788

Jul. 23.

569. From Raja Harendra Narayan Bhup. Says that at his request, the Governor-General had appointed Capt. Duncanson¹ for the protection of the writer and his mother, but the Captain does not reside at Cooch Behar. He lives at Rangpur. When he heard that his enemy, Khagendra Narayan, had collected a number of troops the writer was alarmed and asked Capt. Duncanson to come to Cooch Behar. He replied that until the money that he had lent was paid back to him he would not move. Sarbanand Gosain and the writer's *amala* entreated the Captain to come but in vain. In 1191 Bengali (1784-5 A. D.) from *Katik* to *Chait*² (October to March) the writer borrowed through his *amala* Rs. 14,901 at one per cent per month and gave a separate agreement to pay 7 per cent making altogether 8 per cent per month. In 1192 (1785-6 A. D.) the writer paid him (the Captain) Rs. 20,996 up to the month of *Chait*. Still he did not come to Cooch Behar. Having no alternative Sarbanand Gosain paid him (the Captain)

¹ More correctly Lieut. Duncanson. He commanded a company of 40 sepoys composing the palace-guards and others raised for the protection of the Raja and the queen-mother of Cooch Behar. He and his sepoys were paid by the State but he himself disbursed the pay of the men under his command. He lived at Rangpur for reasons of health and Subadar Gulab Singh was left in charge of the palace-guards. The allegations made in this letter are substantially true. In his letter of 21 August 1788 addressed to Messrs Mercer and Chauvet, Lt Duncanson admits having lent money to the Raja at 7 per cent per month but he states that as soon as he learnt that such transactions were illegal he tried his best to revoke the loan. In fact, he handed over the bond of the loan to the Raja himself, demanding only his just balance. But he was pressed to take it back. As regards the allegation that he refused to come to the Raja's rescue until his dues were cleared he tacitly admits the charge, for in the same letter he states that he did receive Rs. 7,000 from the Raja, 12 days prior to his departure from Rangpur. But he reached Cooch Behar too late, for the Raja and the Rani had already been carried away to Balarampur by Nazir Deo.

He, however, denied having ordered *Subadar* Gulab Singh not to defend the Raja and the Rani against Nazir Deo. On the contrary, his instructions were to afford them all protection and the *Subadar* was well supplied with arms and ammunition for the purpose. But he could not be held responsible for what the *Subadar* might have done or left undone during his absence.

² H. 12th Hindu solar month corresponding to March-April.

a further sum of Rs. 7,000 up to the month of *Jeth* 1194 (May 1787 A. D.) thus making a total payment of Rs. 27,996. The Captain also took a bond in the name of Radha Charan Shaw¹ for Rs. 22,963-8-0 and a promissory note for Rs. 2,425 amounting in all to Rs 25,388-8-0, but he did not return the writer's previous bonds. Meanwhile the insurgents seized the writer and the queen-mother, plundered everything and carried the writer and his mother to Balarampur. The Captain issued some instructions in consequence of which the writer's *Subadar*, Gulab Singh, did not defend the writer and his mother. The writer has consequently lost all confidence in the Captain and dismissed him. The writer then procured from the Collector of Rangpur some sepoy of the English brigade under the command of Lieut. Cuthbert² and put Sobha Singh *Subadar* and his own sepoy also under his orders for the security of the writer and his mother. At this stage Capt. Duncanson arrived at (Cooch) Behar and having confined Sobha Singh *Subadar* took the writer's sepoy under his command saying that the orders from the Governor-General were that he should have the command in Cooch Behar and the Collector also wrote that until the case was settled he should continue in his command. If these are the orders of the Governor-General let the Captain reside with his sepoy at the Behar *Kachahri* and let the brigade sepoy remain at the writer's house. Hopes that his lordship will pass such orders as may secure peace to the Rani and the writer. The Captain's residence at Cooch Behar can be of no good to the writer. Requests therefore that some other person may be appointed in his place. Dated 24 *Asarh* 279. (*OR* 421³; *TR* 28, pp 46-9, no 373; *AR* 4, p 500).

¹ A shroff of the Rangpur Collectorate.

² Possibly Benjamin Cuthbert who joined the army in 1778. Ensign 23 May 1779; Lieut. 26 January 1781; Captain 13 September 1797; Major 13 July 1803; Lieut.-Col. 28 September 1804; Retired 13 May 1806. Died in England 6 March 1823.—Hodson: *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

³ The original is in Bengali.

1788

Jul. 23. 570. From the mother of Harendra Narayan Bhup, Raja of Cooch Behar. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 422¹; *TR* 28, p 49, no 374; *AR* 4, p 500).

Jul. 23. 571. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge of Benares. Has received the following news. Mahadaji Sindhia arrived at Muttra on 29 *Ramazan* (4 July 1788 A. D.) and that Raja Ranjit Singh Jat came there to pay his respects to him. Major Palmer has reached Agra and intends to proceed to Muttra. Ramji Patel with his battalions has reached Koil (Aligarh). He has got possession of the country and will soon take the fort of Aligarh which is held by Ghulam Qadir Khan's people who have offered to capitulate. Ismail Beg Khan has reached Shahdara². Ghulam Qadir, Nawab Nazir, Ramratan Modi and several other Delhi chiefs want to set up another king and to take possession of the royal seal. The King has become aware of this and is cautious. Sindhia wishes to send his troops to Delhi. Ghulam Qadir Khan has arrived near Delhi. His mother has sent for him at Ghausgarh³ while Nawab Nazir has invited him to Delhi. So he is much perplexed. There is great disorder in Delhi. It is said that 450 carriages with families of the inhabitants of the city have left for places of safety. On 29 *Ramazan* (4 July 1788) a severe battle was fought between Arjun Singh⁴ and Beni Huzuri near Chhatarpur⁵. Arjun Singh had about 7,000 cavalry, 5,000 infantry and 15 pieces of cannon. Beni Huzuri had 7,000 cavalry, 1,000 infantry

¹ The original is in Bengali.

² Town in Delhi Province, across the Jumna opposite Delhi City.

³ It lies 13 miles north-east of the city of Shamli in Muzaffarnagar District. Najibud-Daulah, grandfather of Ghulam Qadir, built a strong fort here in the midst of a dense and prosperous Afghan population. Zabith Khan spent his last days here in quiet retirement.

⁴ Noni Arjun Singh was a chief of Bundelkhand who engaged himself in the war of the Panna succession, and siding with Sarnet Singh and his supporter, Kaimji Chaube, attacked the army of Dhaukal Singh commanded by Beni Huzuri at Gathauri and defeated it after a well-contested battle, in which Beni Huzuri was killed and Arjun Singh himself severely wounded.—*Banda District Gazetteer*.

⁵ State in Central India.

1788

and 2 battalions with 5 pieces of cannon. The battle lasted for 2 *pahars*¹. The losses on both sides amounted to 1,500 killed. Beni Huzuri was either slain or is missing. Dated 15 July 1788 A. D. (OR 423; TR 28, pp 49-50, no 375; AR 4, p 494).

Jul. 23. 572. From Sarabjit Singh. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter in answer to the writer's *'arzi* mentioning his arrival at Patna. Has now reached Benares and informed Raja Mahip Narayan all about his lordship's kindness to him. The Raja is very grateful to him. (OR 424; TR 28, pp 50-1, no 376; AR 4, p 519).

Jul. 26. 573. From Mirza Shigufta Bakht, eldest son of Mirza Jahandar Shah. Some time ago the writer sent a *shuqqa* representing his afflicted condition to his lordship through Abdur Rahim Beg. Requests that his lordship will attend to the representations of the said Beg respecting his helpless situation. Hopes that out of regard to the memory of the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) the Governor-General will have compassion on the writer. (OR 425; TR 28, p 51, no 377; AR 4, p 511).

Jul. 26. 574. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter respecting the deputation of *Ihtiramud-Daulah* Capt. John Kennaway *Bahadur Dilawar Jang* to this quarter. The writer delivered the letter to the Nizam who was glad to read its contents. Transmits separately a newspaper containing news of the reported defeat of Tipu Sultan. Many elephants, horses and camels belonging to Tipu were destroyed in the battle. Tipu Sultan is now marching towards Seringapatam. (OR 426).

Jul. 26. 575. Newspaper received from Mir Muhammad Husain. It is reported from Raichur that Tipu Sultan came down the Payanghat² at Malkajpeth and set about clearing the jungle. He posted 4,000 men on the road to Chenapatam³.

¹ H. A division of time, a watch or period of three hours.

² Lit. below the ghats or passes, low country east of Mysore State.

³ Old name of Madras.

so that the English reinforcement might not arrive. Raja Kirat opposed him and fighting took place. The Raja had thousands of hounds in his army and he unleashed them. They attacked Tipu's men, killing many. At last Tipu's army was defeated and Mons. Lally¹ and Muhammad Ashraf², *Jamadar*, were taken prisoners.

It is reported in the newspapers of Poona³ that a fire broke out in Nagpur as a result of which 4,000 houses were burnt down. There is some disagreement between Chimna Raja⁴ and Raghuji. So Hari Pandit⁵ has sent Janardan Patel, a Brahmin to Nagpur as his agent. On the 1st *Ramazan* (6 June 1788) Pandit Pardhan (the Peshwa) went to Tripti⁶ and witnessed a fight between tiger and elephant. Two or three men lost their lives in this pastime. (*OR* 427).

Jul. 27. 576. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter accompanying a copy of the orders abolishing the *chaukis* for collecting duties upon merchandise. Dated 13 *Shawwal* (18 July 1788). (*OR* 428 ; *TR* 28, *pp* 51-2, *no* 378 ; *AR* 4, *p* 509).

Jul. 29. 577. From Rai Mahanand. Says that on 8 *Sawan*⁷ (26 July 1788) he asked Mr Burges, Judge of Murshidabad *adalat* what orders had been passed on his complaint regarding the destruction of his idol of Devi (Goddess Durga). Mr Burges replied that he had sent the papers to the Governor-General after he had received them from Nawab Muzaffar Jang. Hearing this the writer was astonished because the papers should not have been for-

¹ Lally, Junior, French officer in the service of Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan.

² An officer of Tipu Sultan, formerly *Darogha* of the *Dirani Kachahri* at Gooty.

³ Town and district in Bombay Presidency, capital of the Peshwas.

⁴ Chimnaji or Khendoji Bhonsla was the second son of Mudhoji Bhonsla. He was adopted by Bimbaji Bhonsla. He died in 1789.

⁵ The Phadke, probably.

⁶ Nivty ?

⁷ H. 4th Hindu solar month corresponding to July-August.

warded without taking down his statement. Suspects that the *maulavis* and the *darogha* of the *adalat* have prepared the report according to their own liking. Requests that the Governor-General will summon the complainant, his *vakils* and the witnesses of both sides and decide the case himself. (OR 429; TR 28, pp 52-3, no 379; AR 4, p 517).

- Jul. 30. 578. From Tukoji Holkar. Has sent a letter containing several particulars through Anant Ram¹. Requests frequent letters. (OR 430; TR 28, p 53, no 380; AR 4, p 519).
- Jul. 30. 579. To Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. Has received his letter thanking him for the permission granted to Babu Sarabjit Singh to return to Benares. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (CI 20, p 244, no 242; AR 4, p 525, no 182).
- Jul. 30. 580. To Raja Uttam Chand, *vakil* of Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received his letter. Approves of his intention of going to Lucknow for a change of climate. (CI 20, pp 244-5, no 243; AR 4, p 545, no 183).
- Jul. 31. 581. *Tukoji Holkar to Anant Ram*². Has left the Deccan for Hindustan (Upper India). He has very important matters to settle (with the English) and relies on the addressee to represent his affairs to the Governor-General in a proper manner. Has written a letter to the Governor-General and hopes that the addressee will secure a favourable reply from his lordship. Expects that the correspondence between him and the Governor-General as existed during the time of Mr Hastings will be re-established. (OR 431; TR 28, pp 53-4, no 381; AR 4, p 495).
- Jul. 31. 582. From the Pandits, Brahmins, *Mahajans*, and other inhabitants of Benares. Send addresses in praise

¹ Anant Ram, Rao, brother of Raja Govind Ram, the *vakil* of Nawab Asafud-Daulah.

² A copy of this letter was delivered by Anant Ram.

1788

of Mr Hastings. Express full satisfaction with the integrity and efficiency which he displayed during his administration in India. Strongly refute the allegations brought against him in England to the effect that he had ill-treated the people and exacted large sums of money from them during his administration. (*OR* 432-5; *TR* 28, pp 54-6, no 382).

Jul. 31. **583.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah, members of his family and the residents of Murshidabad. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 436 and 438; *TR* 28, pp 61-4 and 68-70, no 382).

Jul. 31. **584.** From Nawab Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan of Rajmahal and members of his family. To the same effect. (*OR* 437; *TR* 28, pp 64-8, no 382).

Jul. 31. **585.** From Nawab Asafud-Daulah, Haidar Beg Khan, Hasan Riza Khan and the inhabitants of Oudh. To the same effect. (*OR* 439-41; *TR* 28, pp 70-5, no 382).

Jul. 31. **586.** From Nawab Muzaffar Jang and the inhabitants of Farrukhabad. To the same effect. (*OR* 442-4; *TR* 28, pp 75-9, no 382).

Jul. 31. **587.** From Radha Nath Zamindar and other inhabitants of Dinajpur. To the same effect. (*OR* 445; *TR* 28, pp 79-81, no 382).

Jul. 31. **588.** To Maharaja Radha Nath of Dinajpur. Is glad to learn that he has paid his *qist*. Hopes that he would similarly discharge his instalments punctually in future. Declines his *nazr* but appreciates the spirit in which it has been offered. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 245, no 244; *AR* 4, p 530, no 184).

Jul. 31. **589.** To Babu Sarabjit Singh. Has received his letter informing him of his safe arrival at Benares. Trusts that the addressee will remain, as ever, a zealous servant of Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. (*CI* 20, p 245, no 245; *AR* 4, p 549, no 185).

1788

Jul.—.

590. *Intelligence.* It is Friday the 6th of *Shawwal* (11 July 1788) to-day. Civil and military officers at Cawnpore, Benares, Jaunpur, Allahabad and Farrukhabad are busily engaged in their own duties.

Mr Duncan and military officers with their troops are in camp at Sikraul¹. Nawab Saadat Ali Khan and others dined at the Prince's house on the occasion of the *chehlum*² of the late Prince Jahandar Shah. On *Id* day the son of the late Prince offered his prayers at Masjid-i-Junub and attended the *khutba*³. Nawab Saadat Ali Khan, Nawab Akbar Ali Khan and Mr Duncan were also with him. Having conferred a *khilat* upon the *Qazi* the Prince's son retired to his house.

Raja Khushhal Ray is residing at *pargana* Phulpur in Allahabad District.

Col. Briscoe⁴ and other officers with their battalions are encamped at Fatehgarh cantonment. Nawab Muzaffar Jang is at Farrukhabad. Col. Francis⁵ with three battalions has marched from Anupshahr⁶ to Fatehgarh. (*OR* 446).

Jul.—.

591. *Dastak* granted to Lala Shambhunath, a servant of the Nawab Vazir, who is proceeding from

¹ The civil station of Benares, commonly known as Sikraul from one of its component villages, lies mainly to the north of Baruna river. The cantonment station itself is now within the limits of Sikraul, but the land was formerly cantonment property. *Benares District Gazetteer*.

² P. fortieth; the fortieth and final day (of mourning).

³ A. sermon delivered from the pulpit during Friday and *Id* prayers.

⁴ Major General Horton Briscoe. Commandant 1st Bengal European Regiment. Born 1741; Cadet 1763. Ensign 25 August 1763. Lt.-Col. 4 Dec. 1781. Col. 19 Jan. 1788. Maj.-Gen. 20 Dec. 1793. Died at Calcutta 25 Dec. 1802. aged 61. Hodson: *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

⁵ Perhaps Lt.-Col. Robert Francis who entered Coy.'s service as cadet 1781. Lt. 10 Jan. 1785. Died at Calcutta 29 Sep. 1832, aged 60. Hodson: *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

⁶ *Tahsil* and town in Bulandshahr District, United Provinces.

1788

Calcutta to Lucknow with certain commodities for his master. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans* and others are directed to afford him safe and free passage. (CI 20, pp 243-4, no 241).

Aug. 1. 592. I. *The Collector of Dinajpur to the mother of Maharaja Radha Nath of Dinajpur.* Has not yet received the private seal of the Maharaja. Desires her therefore to transmit the same to the writer as early as possible.

II. *The mother of the Maharaja to the Collector.* Acknowledges the receipt of his letter desiring her to send to him the private seal of the Maharaja. Says that she has already sent to him the large seal of the Maharaja with which all the business of the estate is transacted. Is unable to send the private seal, as it is the long-standing practice among the principal Rajas and *Umaras*¹ of this country that in no circumstance do they part with their private seals but always keep them in their possession.

III. *The Collector of Dinajpur to the mother of the Maharaja.* Has received her letter. Agrees with the addressee that in accordance with custom the private seal of the Maharaja should remain with him. But since the Maharaja is very young, it is not desirable that the seal should remain with him. Over and above this it is also a fact that the seal in question is not now with the Maharaja but it is in the possession of some one else. However he has written to the Maharaja to send his private seal to him. It is hoped that the addressee will also see that his request is immediately complied with.

IV. *The mother of the Maharaja to the Collector.* Acknowledges the receipt of his letter and regrets her inability to send the seal demanded by him.

V. *The Collector of Dinajpur to the mother of the Maharaja.* Says that the Board has been pleased to demand

¹ A. nobles.

the private seal of Maharaja Radha Nath from Janki Ram, the discharged *naib* of the Maharaja at Calcutta. The *naib* has replied that the seal is with the addressee. Desires her therefore to make over the said seal immediately on receipt of this letter to Rai Ram Kanta, the present *naib*.

VI. *The mother of the Maharaja to the Collector.* Has received his letter communicating to her the recent orders of the Board. Expresses, as before, her inability to comply with the request of the addressee.

VII. *Parwana issued by the Collector to Rai Ram Kanta.* Since he has represented that inconvenience is felt in transacting the business of the zamindari for want of the Maharaja's seal, he is directed to prepare a new seal with the title, Maharaja Radha Nath 1194 B. S., engraved on it. He is further directed to send an *arzi* on the part of the Maharaja with the specimen of the new seal for the writer's information and guidance. (*TR* 28, pp 81-5, no 383; *AR* 4, p 514).

Aug. 2. 593. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is greatly pleased to receive his lordship's letter. Learns constantly from his *vakil*, Moti Lal, about the favour and kindness which his lordship evinces for the writer. Hopes his lordship's favour will ever continue to him and he will honour him with frequent letters. (*TR* 27, pp 316-17, no 235; *AR* 4, p 469).

Aug. 2. 594. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Says that since the demise of her husband (Jahandar Shah) she has been suffering untold hardship. She is practically helpless now and has no one except the Governor-General on whom she can rely for her support and protection. Deputes Mir Mazhar Ali Khan, one of her confidants, to Calcutta to wait on the Governor-General. (*TR* 28, pp 85-6, no 384; *AR* 4, p 505).

Aug. 2. 595. From Nawab Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan. Intimates that the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan) has deputed Mir Mazhar Ali Khan to Calcutta in order to wait on the

Governor-General. Says that the Mir is a confidant of the Begam and the Nawab therefore commends him to his lordship's favour. (*TR* 28, pp 86-7, no 385; *AR* 4, p 494).

Aug. 2. **596.** From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Is deputing Tafazul Husain Khan, as his *vakil* to Calcutta in order to wait on the Governor-General. Says that the Khan enjoys his confidence and commends him therefore to the favour of the Governor-General. (*TR* 28, pp 87-8, no 386; *AR* 4, p 520).

Aug. 3. **597.** From Nawab Diler Himmat Khan. Has received his letter saying that it was his long-felt desire to establish a regular system of commerce between the dominions of the Company and those of their allies in order that the merchants of the neighbouring countries might visit those places and carry on their trade without fear or molestation, and that with this object in view he (the Governor-General) has approved of the plan proposed by the Nawab Vazir for the collection of duties from merchants at Farrukhabad. His lordship has therefore asked the writer, whose country owing to its central position will be more benefited by this arrangement, to acquiesce in the plan proposed. Is glad to find that his lordship is so anxious to promote the welfare and prosperity of the writer's dominions. Says that although the plan suggested by the Nawab Vazir appeared to be detrimental to the interests of the writer's country yet out of regard for his lordship's wishes he has agreed to the proposal. Encloses for his perusal copies of letters that passed between the writer and the Nawab Vazir on this subject.

Nawab Asafud-Daulah to Nawab Diler Himmat Khan.
Says that the collection of duties at too high a rate and at various places causes great inconvenience to the merchants and the *beoparis*. In order to afford them facilities in transacting their business the writer and the Governor-General have resolved that those

1788

merchants and *beoparis* who shall bring any commodity from the Company's dominions to those of the writer shall pay the duties at one station only to be fixed by the latter in his country. The duties on such commodities shall be levied according to the valuation specified in the Company's *rawana*. The merchants and *beoparis* shall then be provided by the officers of the writer with a separate *rawana* exempting the goods from further demands in their progress through his dominions. Merchants and *beoparis* carrying their merchandise from Bengal and other countries of the Company by way of Farrukhabad towards Delhi will be put to inconvenience if duties are collected from them separately in the district of Farrukhabad. It has therefore been agreed that *rawanas* shall be granted to the merchants from the eastward to the westward as far as the borders of Farrukhabad. Merchants possessing *rawanas* granted by the officers of the writer on the eastern boundary are not to be obstructed for further duties in the district of Farrukhabad which is the addressee's jurisdiction. If the goods are sold in the *ganjs* or towns of the addressee, the duties according to the established local rates are to be levied but if a merchant buys those goods for exportation to any other country, no local duties are to be charged. As the plan in question is adopted for the relief of the merchants and the *beoparis* any loss that the addressee may sustain in his revenues in consequence of his having relinquished his claim to the collection of duties on goods passing through his territories will be compensated in the following manner. Whenever any merchant shall pass the Farrukhabad district under cover of the *rawana* granted by the writer's officers the addressee's officers will enter the amount of Farrukhabad duties in the *rawana* and according to that entry the writer will give him credit in the accounts of the tribute payable by him.

In order that this plan may be carried fully into execution and no inconvenience is caused to the merchants it has been resolved that if any renter, farmer, zamindar

or *jagirdar* exacts any duties from any merchant holding the *rawana* of the Nawab Vazir's officers he shall be fined Rs. 100 for every rupee thus exacted for the first offence, for the second offence Rs. 500, for the third if the offender is a farmer, he shall be dispossessed of his farm; if he is a zamindar or *jagirdar*, he shall forfeit his lands. The addressee is asked to attend to this matter and to instruct all his officers to act strictly according to the directions given above.

Nawab Diler Himmatt Khan to Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter. Says that notwithstanding the fact that the measure proposed by the addressee will be highly detrimental to the interests of the writer's government yet out of regard to the wishes of the Nawab Vazir the writer cannot but comply with it. Will himself adhere strictly to the principles laid down by the addressee and will also see that none of his dependants acts contrary to them. Some of the zamindars of the writer's country are refractory and are remiss in the payment of their revenues. If any one of them, on account of his turbulent disposition should act contrary to the orders, the Nawab Vazir will kindly take steps to punish him. Is gratified to learn from the letter of the addressee that the Farrukhabad duties shall be credited to him according to the entry in the *rawanas* and the tribute payable by him will be adjusted accordingly. Is grateful for this favour. Will collect the duties on goods from the westward according to the established custom as presumably this privilege has been continued to him by the addressee. (*TR* 28, pp 88-95, no 387; *AR* 4, p 502).

Aug. 4. 598. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has learnt from the letter of Mr Ives about the cold-blooded murder of one of the Company's *subadars* who was on his way to Fatehgarh on duty. The assassin, who is a subordinate of Almas Ali Khan,¹ is reported to have fled into the

¹ Governor of Etawah. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 4, f.n. 8.

1788

jungles. Requests the Nawab therefore to issue positive orders to the Khan to prevent the escape of the culprit and to mete out to him the punishment he deserves. (*CI* 20, *p* 113, *no* 109 ; *AR* 4, *p* 553, *no* 186).

Aug. 6. **599.** From Ran Bahadur Sah, Raja of Nepal. Says that the country of Lhasa¹, which appertains to China, borders upon the country of the writer and that the relation between the two countries has so long been friendly and rested on the terms of treaties and engagements. But the chiefs of Lhasa have now started infringing the terms of the treaties and acting contrary to them. The Raja on several occasions drew their attention to these irregularities but instead of mending their ways they commenced hostilities against him. Has therefore despatched a body of troops to that country (Lhasa) in order to make them repent for their misdeeds. It is probable that the said chiefs may requisition assistance from the Governor-General at this juncture. Requests the latter not to give them any help if it is sought. (*TR* 28, *pp* 95-6, *no* 388 ; *AR* 4, *p* 516).

Aug. 6. **600.** From Sadasheo Rao Malhar. Says that in obedience to the orders of his master, Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia, he has set out towards Benares in order to perform his pilgrimage as well as to bring back Appa Raghunath² (Chitnavis) who has for long been staying there in connection with certain religious performances. Is sure that the Governor-General will have received from the Maharaja letters requesting exemption from the payment of pilgrim duties at Gaya in favour of the mother of Raja Deshmukh and her followers. Has already transmitted a list of the pilgrims with other particulars to Bhagwant Rao. Refers him to Bhagwant for other particulars.

¹ This is the capital of the U Province of Tibet. It stands on a level plain, surrounded by mountains, and dotted over with populous monasteries.

² More correctly, Abaji Raghunath Chitnis, a Brahmin officer in Sindhia's service.

PS.—Although the pilgrims accompanying the lady are numerous, the writer has recommended 1000 persons only for favour of exemption. (*TR* 28, pp 96-7, no 389 ; *AR* 4, p 497).

Aug. 6. **601.** From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Has learnt that the affairs regarding the garden (of Durga Kund¹) where he is residing, have been communicated to the Governor-General. Says that since the time of Mr Hastings the Nawab has been peacefully living in this garden-house which was fixed by the English gentlemen for his residence and that he has scrupulously avoided giving any cause of complaint either to the owners of the house or to the other inhabitants of the place. Has also effected necessary additions and alterations in the house according to his own taste. Some time ago the owners requested the Nawab to purchase the house from them and demanded a price much higher than it was worth. The Nawab owing to his long association with that house, as also to satisfy the owners, agreed to pay the sum demanded. Now they have given up the idea of disposing of that house and desire the Nawab to quit it. In view of the fact that the Nawab is staying there with a large retinue, it is not possible for him to vacate it unless he gets another suitable house for his accommodation. Requests the Governor-General therefore to assist him in the settlement of this affair. (*TR* 28, pp 97-9, no 390 ; *AR* 4, p 518).

Aug. 6. **602.** From Jagat Seth Harak Chand. Complimentary. (*TR* 28, p 99, no 391 ; *AR* 4, p 504).

Aug. 6. **603.** *Notification.* Public notice is hereby given that persons desirous of obtaining money for advances at the *aurangs*² within the districts of Bengal will be furnished with the same after the current month on

¹ Locality near Durga Temple in the town of Benares. After the accession of Nawab Asafud-Daulah, Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan came away from Lucknow and took up his residence here in about 1778.

² P. *aurang*, place where goods are manufactured.

1783

making an application to Mr J. E. Harrington,¹ the Accountant to the Board of Revenue with bills on the Collectors, within whose jurisdiction the *aurangs* may be situated, for such sums as are required or such parts thereof as the state of the provincial treasuries admit of their paying. Gold mohurs will be received at the Calcutta Treasury for the amount of these bills.

The applications for them must be made on Mondays and Wednesdays, specifying the sums wanted, and the *aurangs* for which they are required, and the answer to those applications will be sent on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Public notice is also given that the officers of the Government at Calcutta who receive money for the Company, have been ordered to receive gold coin of the proper standard and fineness whenever tendered in payment, without exacting or taking or allowing to be exacted or taken any *batta* or discount thereupon under any pretence whatever. (*CI* 20, pp 245-7, no 247).

- Aug. 6. 604. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter. Is glad to inform him that his *vakil*, Tafazzul Husain Khan, has safely arrived at Calcutta and is now waiting on him (the Governor-General). Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 247, no 248; *AR* 4, p 553, no 188).
- Aug 7. 605. To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 248-9, no 250).
- Aug. 7. 606. To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Has received his letter representing the inconveniences the Nawab will be put to by quitting the garden-house at Benares in which he is now residing. Desires him to place the

¹ Sir John Harrington was the Deputy Accountant to the Revenue Department and the Auditor of Revenue Accounts till 1789, when he was appointed Paymaster of *Nizamat* Stipends at Murshidabad. Here he seems to have served the Company in various capacities, viz., Paymaster of *Nizamat* Stipends, Collector and Resident from 1789 to 1797 which year he resigned his office.—I.R.D.: *Press List of the Public Department Records*.

1788

particulars of his difficulties before Mr Duncan, the Resident at Benares, who is fully authorised to deal with such cases. (*CI* 20, p 249, no 251 ; *AR* 4, p 550, no 190).

- Aug. 7. **607.** To Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam (widow of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah). Has received her letter protesting against the proposed reduction of her allowance from Rs. 450 to Rs. 325 a month and requesting the favour of directing Mr Speke, the Superintendent of *Nizamai* Stipends, to continue paying her allowance at the old rate. Refers her for particulars to her *vakil*, Shaikh Muhammad Shikeb, who is going back to her. (*CI* 20, p 250, no 253 ; *AR* 4, p 546, no 191).
- Aug. 7. **608.** To Saiyid Khadim Ali Khan. Has received his letter protesting against the proposed reduction of his allowance and requesting the favour of issuing necessary orders for the payment of the arrears of his stipend. Refers him for particulars to his *vakil* who is going back to him. (*CI* 20, p 250, no 254 ; *AR* 4, p 538, no 192).
- Aug. 8. **609.** To Ran Bahadur Sah, Raja of Nepal. Has received his letter through Dina Nath Upaddhaya saying that he had sent his army on an expedition towards Lhasa as the chiefs of that quarter had broken their engagements with him and requesting that if they ask military aid against him it should be refused by his lordship. Says in reply that his devotion and attachment to the Company are well known to his lordship who therefore assures him that nothing will be done contrary to the obligations of such relationship. Refers him to Dina Nath for particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 113-14, no 110 ; *AR* 4, p 545, no 187).
- Aug. 8.¹ **610.** To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter through Mir Mazhar Ali Khan. Is sorry that she took the trouble of deputing the Khan to him. Has given him permission to return to her. Has ordered Mr Duncan to pay due attention to her

¹ August 9, according to the vol. of abstracts.

1788

affairs. Requests that she will unreservedly communicate her commands to him. Mirza Abdur Rahim Beg who had been deputed to Calcutta by the late Prince, has also been directed to accompany the Mir to Benares. (*CI 20, pp 114-16, no 111 ; AR 4, p 537, no 193*).

Aug. 8.¹ **611.** To Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI 20, pp 116-17, no 112 ; AR 4, p 524, no 194*).

Aug. 8.¹ **612.** To Diler Himmat Khan. Is glad to learn from his letter that he has accepted the plan proposed by the Nawab Vazir for the collection of duties on merchandise at Farrukhabad. Says that he cannot agree with the Khan that the measure adopted would be detrimental to his government, as he is fully convinced that the Nawab is a well-wisher of the addressee and that the plan proposed by him is meant to promote the well-being and prosperity of his country. (*CI 20, pp 117-18, no 113 ; AR 4, p 532, no 195*).

Aug. 9. **613.** From Rajaram Pandit, *Subadar* of Cuttack. Complimentary. (*TR 28, p 99, no 392 ; AR 4, p 518*).

Aug. 9. **614.** From Mir Mazhar Ali Khan, *vakil* of Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has learnt through Mr Cherry the Governor-General's orders that the business of the Begam shall henceforth be transacted through Mr Duncan and that the Mir is permitted to go back (to Benares). Says that the writer has been nominated by the Begam as her *vakil* to wait upon the Governor-General and that he has reached Calcutta to discharge his duties after having made a journey of two months. Besides, the fact of his deputation by the Begam to Calcutta has become widely known. It would therefore be derogatory to the Begam as well as the writer if the latter is sent back so soon. Requests the Governor-General therefore to permit him to stay on at Calcutta.

¹ August 9, according to the vol. of abstracts.

Enclosure. Purport of the Begam's requests : (1) As her expenses are equal to those of the late Prince (Jahandar Shah), any deduction from the amount which was paid to him would cause her great inconvenience and hardship.

(2) Mr Duncan may be ordered to defray the expenses relating to the repairs, etc., as formerly.

(3) As the Governor-General looks to the well-being of the Begam, she may be permitted a free hand in the management of her affairs and in her correspondence she may be allowed to make use of the seal of whichever of the princes (sons of Jahandar Shah) she may choose. If this is done, it will adjust her affairs. (*TR* 28, pp 99-101, no 393 ; *AR* 4, p 511).

Aug. 11. **615.** From Karam Ali Khan, an inhabitant of Birbhum. Represents that he and his ancestors have resided in Birbhum for the last nine generations. Says that as his house is situated on a highway, he has to feed and clothe the travellers and mendicants who happen to pass that way and has also to attend to the repairs and other necessary expenses of the mosques there. With a view to meeting these expenses the Zamindar of Birbhum granted to him in 1185 *Fashl* (1777-8 A.D.) a *muqarrari sanad* for two villages as well as eight separate plots of waste lands at a *jama* of 301 sicca rupees on condition that the writer shall make them arable and out of the income shall first pay the government revenue and then utilise the balance in providing for the travellers and the destitutes and in effecting repairs to the mosques. The *sanad* in question is still in his possession. Has made the lands cultivable, constructed two bunds to facilitate irrigation at a cost of Rs 3,000 and has settled on them peasants whom he has provided with cattle, seeds and other necessaries. He has never been remiss in the payment of the government revenues and other taxes. But since the writer's financial condition was not satisfactory, he had to incur debts in order to meet all these demands.

1788

Says further that for the last two years the farmers of the mofussil, actuated by evil motives have been creating difficulties in the management of his affairs and have been thereby causing him heavy financial loss. Requests that the Governor-General will relieve him of his embarrassments by confirming the *mugarrari sanad* so that he may apply himself with peace of mind to the discharge of his duties. (TR 28, pp 101-2, no 394 ; AR 4, p 507).

Aug. 11. 616. From Karam Ali Khan of Birbhum. Says that vast tracts of unbounded jungle are lying waste in the district of Birbhum. The Company will be financially benefited if those tracts are cleared and made fit for cultivation. Urges the Governor-General therefore to grant him a *sanad* and a *patta*¹ in perpetuity under the seal of the Company for all the jungles of Ballia and Lackjul measuring about two *kos* in length and one *kos* in breadth at a *jama* of two annas per *bigha*. The Khan on his part undertakes to clear the jungles, to people them, to advance *tagavi* to the ryots and to construct bunds for the storage of water for irrigational facilities. Requests the Governor-General to instruct the Collector (of Birbhum) to send an *amin* in the 5th year of the grant in the month of *Magh* to measure the land cleared from the thick jungle and settle the *jamabandi*² at the rate of two annas per *bigha*. As for measuring the land of the thin forest the *amin* may be sent in the 3rd year of the grant in the same month. Will deem it a favour if the revenue of these lands is separated from the mofussil and is allowed to be paid in the *sadr kachahri* at Birbhum. As the thick jungles lie under the hills, *kotwals*³ and watchmen will be necessary for the protection of the inhabitants from the depredations of the hill people. The *amin* may therefore

¹ H. a deed, commonly a title-deed to land, deed of lease.

² P. settlement of the amount of revenue assessed upon an estate, a village, or district ; a village or district rent-roll ; a register of the village holdings ; a statement exhibiting the particulars of the public revenue, its amount, and how assessed ; annual settlement of revenue with cultivators, or *ryotwari* settlement.

³ H. chief officer of police for a city, superintendent of market.

1788

be directed to apportion a separate *jagir* out of the cleared lands for the maintenance of *kotwals* and others. Requests further that a letter may be issued from the Council to the Collector directing him to send one of his subordinates to demarcate the boundary lines in accordance with the *patta* granted by the *sadr*. Is convinced that when the writer will have cleared the woods and have brought them under cultivation others will also follow his example to the advantage of the Company. (*TR* 28 pp 102-4, *no* 395; *AR* 4, p 507).

Aug. 13 617. Extracts from the newspapers of Delhi. 31 July.—From the newspaper presented to the King it transpired that Mahadaji Sindhia had made offers to the Raja of Jodhpur who in consequence had written to the Raja of Jaipur, but the latter being unwilling to leave the credit of any accommodation in the hands of the Raja of Jodhpur, had declared his mistrust of Sindhia and with a view to forcing him to enter into negotiation with himself ordered his troops to advance towards his frontiers with the apparent intention of assisting Ismail Beg Khan. Sindhia is now engaged in collecting money for his troops and negotiating with Begum Samru. A disagreement appears to exist between Sindhia and Raja Ranjit Singh who is carrying on a correspondence with Ismail Beg and Ghulam Qadir Khan. Ismail Beg and Ghulam Qadir owing to their impetuosity are not upon good terms of friendship.

The Sikhs negotiate with both parties and correspond with each of them on the same subject. Ghulam Qadir and Ismail Beg have both procured royal *shuqqas* addressed to all the neighbouring chiefs informing them of the march of Sulaiman Shikoh¹ with the confederate chiefs, and desiring them all to join hands in expelling Sindhia. They confine every person suspected of possessing wealth in

¹ Prince Mirza Muhammad Sulaiman Shikoh was one of the sons of Shah Alam II. Died at Agra on 24 February 1838 and was buried in the mausoleum of Akbar at Sikandra in Agra. Beale: *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*.

the city of Delhi, ~~to~~ extort money. On hearing this, the King sent for their *vakils* and remonstrated with them upon such breach of engagements.

Aug. 1.—The state of alarm of the whole city is evident from the fact that many persons have taken to flight and many of them have taken shelter in the fort. The King has deputed Matlab Khan¹ to Ismail Beg Khan, desiring him to prevent Ghulam Qadir from practising these oppressions and to persuade him to come to the royal presence. Matlab Khan accompanied Ismail Beg to Ghulam Qadir with whom he held a long conversation. Ghulam Qadir in the course of his conversation is reported to have said that he had no money for his troops and none was collected from the lands; that the King prevented him from extorting it from the inhabitants of the city while Raja Himmat Bahadur was allowed to do so. He is reported to have further said that if the King was desirous of maintaining peace in Delhi he should come forward with ten lakhs of rupees or the Khan would seize whatever he could lay his hands on. Matlab Khan at length informed him that the King wanted to see him. Ghulam Qadir Khan ordered his equipage to be got ready and 10,000 armed men to accompany it. Matlab Khan on seeing this said that His Majesty was then taking rest, therefore it was not the proper time to go. But Ghulam Qadir persisted and went to the fort. When His Majesty heard of their arrival he sent for Ismail Beg Khan, and ordered the Nawab Nazir to bring Ghulam Qadir Khan who declined to go until Ismail Beg was sent by His Majesty to fetch him. It was then reported that two Frenchmen in Ghulam Qadir Khan's service were drawing a plan of the fort. Manyar Singh and others, also in his service, were waiting fully armed outside the fort and all his army was in readiness. When the King heard this he ordered his own battalions to be in readiness. They accordingly armed themselves and shut the gates while Ghulam Qadir Khan and Ismail Beg with the

¹ Courtier of Shah Alam.

Nawab Nazir held a consultation within. Rai Sital Das¹ carried several messages backwards and forwards to the King from them. At length Ghulam Qadir and Ismail Beg posted themselves each at one of the gates of the fort, opened them and called in Manyar Singh's troops and set about making their own arrangements in the fort. The confederate chiefs sent the King's troops and those of the Nawab Nazir to their camp. Ghulam Qadir Khan and Ismail Beg Khan then resorted to the *Tasbih Khana*² and held a consultation with the Nawab Nazir, whom they repeatedly sent to the King to demand money. The King replied that if he had any money, matters would not have come to this pass and that they were at liberty to take whatever money they could find. Ismail Beg went to his tent and Ghulam Qadir Khan stayed all night in the fort keeping Nawab Nazir with him. The King remained in his sleeping apartments. During the night Ghulam Qadir Khan determined to raise to the throne Mirza Bedar Bakht³, son of Ahmad Shah⁴ and grandson of Muhammad Shah⁵. On the morning of 2 August, Ismail Beg returned to the fort and held a consultation with Ghulam Qadir Khan. They both sent for Mirza Bedar Bakht and placed him on the throne⁶. They also presented their *nazrs* and ordered rejoicings to be made in the town. They requested Malika Zamani Sahiba,⁷ widow of Muhammad Shah, to come to the fort and going into the

¹ He was the *naiib* to the rebellious Nawab Nazir and Treasurer of the Royal Household at Delhi. After the downfall of Ghulam Qadir Khan he took refuge in Nawab Vazir's dominion.

² Building in the Red Fort, consisting of a row of three rooms facing the Diwan-i-Khas. It was exclusively set apart for consultations with the nobility and the grandees.

³ He occupied the throne for a very brief period. At the approach of the Marathas he fled from Delhi but was apprehended and killed.

⁴ Mughal Emperor (1748-54).

⁵ Mughal Emperor (1719-48).

⁶ Bedar Bakht was enthroned on 31 July, according to Sarkar. In this message the date is given as 2 Aug. August 1, would however appear to be the correct date as it was a Friday as in nos 628 & 631 below.

⁷ She was the daughter of Emperor Farrukh Siyar and was married to Muhammad Shah, Emperor of Delhi in 1722 A.D. The year of her death is not known, but she lies buried in a small tomb outside the Kabul Gate of Delhi.—Beale : *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*.

1788

King's sleeping apartments, took from him his sword and target and such jewels as he had. They then sent the King with Akbar Shah and 17 other princes into the prison quarters called the Asad Burj¹ and sent for Sulaiman Shikoh who was in the camp. They consulted about what places they should dig in search of money. The Rohillas² entered the Zenana Mahal to plunder it. When Matlab Khan heard this, he went to Ghulam Qadir Khan to protest against it. Ghulam Qadir Khan seized him by the beard and told him not to interfere in his business. Upon this Matlab Khan became angry and said that there appeared to be a rebellion in the fort and that he would fortify himself in his own residence. Ghulam Qadir Khan sent a message to all the Mughal chiefs residing in Delhi to arm themselves and come to him. Many of these chiefs have already joined him. Keeping about 3000 Rohillas with him in the fort, Ghulam Qadir ordered the rest to camp, where he is preparing himself to go. The Nawab Nazir is in Moti Mahal³ and Sital Das in Shah Burj⁴ under the surveillance of the Rohillas. Himmat Bahadur is at Faridabad⁵ and Samru Begam is staying in the camp of Sindhia. The troops of Najaf Quli Khan have deserted him and joined Ismail Beg Khan. (*TR* 28, *pp* 105-9, *no* 396; *AR* 4, *p* 504).

Aug. 13

618. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter expressing his desire to effect an economy in the expenses of the Nawab's government and advising him

¹ A tower on the south-eastern corner of the Red Fort.

² A name by which Afghans, or more particularly Afghans settled in Hindustan, are sometimes known. The word appears to be Pushtu *rohelaḥ*, or *rohelai*, adj. formed from *rohu*, "mountain," thus signifying "mountaineer of Afghanistan". The term Rohilla is now seldom heard in Northern India, but in the Deccan, and especially in Hyderabad where Afghan immigrants are numerous, it is still in common use. The Afghans settled in India are now more commonly known as Pathans. Stracey: *Hastings And The Rohilla War*.

³ Hall situated a little to the south of Shah Burj. It was removed after the Mutiny.

⁴ It is the last of the three important towers of the Red Fort. It stands on the river, at a short distance on the north of the Hammam and not far from Fort Salimgarh.

⁵ Town in Gurgaon District, Punjab, 16 miles from Delhi.

1788

therefore to meet only as much expenses of the family of the late Prince Jahandar Shah as are absolutely necessary and for as long a period as they continue to remain under the protection of the Company. Is glad to find that the Governor-General takes so much interest in the well-being and prosperity of the Nawab. Will continue to pay the necessary expenses of the late Prince's family, as desired by the Governor-General. Encloses for his perusal the copies of letters which he has written to the King and Qutlaq Sultan Begam on the subject of sending back the late Prince's family to Delhi.

Nawab Asafud-Daulah to the King. Has received his royal *shugqa* commanding him to send back the family of the late Prince Jahandar Shah to Delhi. Is sure that the presence of the children of the late Prince before His Majesty would have alleviated his grief to a great extent and would have comforted the afflicted heart of the mother of the deceased Prince. Says that immediately on receipt of the *shugqa* the Nawab communicated His Majesty's command to Qutlaq Sultan Begam. But as the Begam is still overwhelmed with grief and affliction she could not give proper attention to it. On account of the distracted state of her mind in consequence of her recent bereavement it does not appear feasible to press her immediately to obey the Imperial command. Besides this the Begam will not be able to undertake a journey owing to the approach of the rainy season when travelling especially with young children is beset with manifold difficulties.

Nawab Asafud-Daulah to Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has received her letter expressing her disinclination to return to Delhi owing to the hostility of other princes there and asking him to send a suitable reply to the King in case he receives any *shugqa* from him on that subject. Requests her to reflect for a moment about the grief and affliction of the King at the sudden death of his eldest son (Jahandar Shah) especially as this melancholy event happened at a considerable distance from him and at a time when no member of the family of the deceased was by his side to

1788

console him. Suggests therefore that the Begam should make no procrastination in obeying the command of the King but should immediately go back with the young princes to Delhi. Their very presence before His Majesty will to a great extent relieve the afflictions with which he is now overwhelmed. Hopes that the Begam will give due consideration to the representations of the Nawab and will act in conformity to his suggestion. (*TR* 28, pp 110-13, no 397; *AR* 4, p 520).

Aug. 13 **619.** From Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Complimentary, informing that he has paid the *qists* in full. (*TR* 28, pp 113-14, no 398; *AR* 4, p 503).

Aug. 13 **620.** From Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. Says that having taken leave of the Governor-General he arrived at Burdwan on 3 *Sawan* (15 July 1788) and found his state in a most wretched condition. At present it is confronted with drought and in consequence his ryots are experiencing hardship from the dearness of grain. For want of provisions some have fled and those who remain have no means to cultivate their lands. Has therefore advanced some money to them as *tagavi* in order to enable them to carry on their work. But as the rainy season is fast approaching, the Raja is much concerned on account of the settlement of his districts. Looks upon him as his protector and will therefore acquaint him later with his situation in detail. (*TR* 28, pp 114-15, no 399; *AR* 4, p 496).

Aug 13. **621.** From the Raja of Burdwan. Represents that all the roads leading to the town of Burdwan are narrow and defective and that during the rains they become so bad that it is almost impossible either for men or for bullock-carts laden with grain to make use of them. Requests the Governor-General therefore to permit him to get them repaired for the convenience of merchants and passersby. Since the town of Burdwan is sparsely populated, any imposition of duty on its inhabitants to meet the cost of repairs will not fetch adequate funds. Requests the

Governor-General therefore either to advance some money on this account or allow the Raja to levy a *mahsul*¹ on the ryots of the *chakla*. (*TR* 28, p 115, no 400 ; *AR* 4, p 496).

Aug. 13. **622.** From the *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary. (*TR* 28, pp 115-16, no 401).

Aug. 13. **623.** From Babu Manohar Das. Complimentary, adding that after completing the arrangement for the payment of money at Surat and Bombay he will take leave of Mr Duncan and will proceed to pay his respects to the Governor-General at Calcutta. (*TR* 28, p 116, no 402 ; *AR* 4, p 512).

Aug. 13. **624.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Benares. Has learnt from the newspaper that the Nawab Nazir is negotiating with Ghulam Qadir Khan and Ismail Beg Khan, who are rebelliously inclined to lay violent hands on the King. But the Mughal chiefs are opposed to taking any such steps against His Majesty for fear of getting a bad name throughout Hindustan. Ghulam Qadir and Ismail Beg, being unable to bring them round to their own views at last petitioned His Majesty to allow one of the princes to join them in their war against the Marathas. They urged their request so strongly that the King had no alternative but to yield to every demand they made and sent his son Sulaiman Shikoh to accompany them in their campaign against the Marathas. Both the chiefs have already marched to a distance of one *kos*. Mahadaji Sindhia is at Muttra and is trying to win the two chiefs over to his side. The troops of Sindhia are massing at Faridabad. (*TR* 28, pp 116-17, no 403 ; *AR* 4, p 495).

Aug. 13. **625.** To Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Is pleased to learn from the letter of Mr Ives that the *qists* up to the end of June (1788) have been paid. Hopes that the Khan will

¹ A. profit, tax, duty, excise, custom, the produce or return realised from anything.

1788

show similar zeal in making payments of the Company's subsidy in future and in maintaining friendship between the Nawab Vazir and the Company. (*CI* 20, *pp* 118-19, *no* 114 ; *AR* 4, *p* 535, *no* 196).

Aug. 13. 626. *Notification*. This notification is the same as *no* 603 above. (*CI* 20, *pp* 247-8, *no* 249).

Aug. 14. 627. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Says that the Governor General must have learnt from newspapers as well as from the letters of Mr Ives all about the disturbances that are now taking place at Delhi. He must have also been acquainted with the account of the perfidious conduct of Ghulam Qadir Khan towards the King. Is sure that the Governor-General will be minutely studying the developments of these commotions and that he will advise the Nawab how best to act under the present circumstances when a tremendous upheaval is about to take place at the capital. (*TR* 28, *p* 117, *no* 404 ; *AR* 4, *p* 520).

Aug. 14. 628. *Intelligence*. To-day, Friday the 27th *Shawwal* (1 Aug.) at about 9 o'clock in the morning he (Ghulam Qadir Khan) placed Mirza Bedar Bakht, son of Ahmad Shah, upon the Imperial throne and threw Shah Alam into confinement. At present the fort is in the hands of the Rohillas and no one is permitted to go in nor is anyone allowed to come out. The new King has assumed the name of Jahan Shah². It is said that King Jahan Shah will proceed at noon to Jama Masjid to say his Friday prayers and return thanks to God. It is reported that Ghulam Qadir Khan brought Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh in a covered litter from the army and confined him in the *Salatin*³. As regards Shah Alam, conflicting reports are current at the capital. According to some people Ghulam Qadir Khan has confined him in the *Salatin* while others say that he has probably put him to death, but no authentic report

¹ Aug. 9, according to the vol. of abstracts.

² Nasirud-Din Muhammad Jahan Shah was the title under which the rebel chiefs had enthroned Bedar Bakht.

³ Prison quarters in the fort called the *Salatin*.

Seq. 7.

687. (1) *Qutlaq Sultan Begam to Mr Duncan*.¹ Says that she deputed Mir Mazhar Ali Khan to the Governor-General's presence with no other motive than to learn of his lordship's health. Has placed every thing in the hands of the addressee and if he so desires she will recall the Khan from Calcutta. Hopes that he will write to his lordship about the Khan's recall in the manner that may seem proper to him.

(2) *Mr Duncan to Qutlaq Sultan Begam*. Is honoured to receive her *shugga* saying that if the writer wished Mir Mazhar Ali Khan would be recalled from Calcutta Says that as the deputation of the Mir will involve an unnecessary expense, it is desirable to recall him. Has already informed her how the Company itself is involved in debts and with what difficulty the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah) has furnished her with money. The Governor-General, as is known to the Begam, also wrote all particulars to the late Prince. Hopes that the Begam will approve of the recall of the Mir and will furnish the writer with the statement of expenses allotted to him for Calcutta. The money advanced since the late Prince's death had been paid on a running account but in future she will receive monthly the amount that has been fixed for her.

(3) *Mirza Haji to Mr Duncan*. Is greatly pleased to receive his 'arzi accompanying a basket of presents. Says that he will reach Lucknow within two or three days and have the pleasure of meeting his 'uncle', the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah). Will communicate to him the particulars of his interview later. The addressee is well aware of the circumstances that led him to leave Benares. Desires him to write every particular to Mr Ives so that he may attend to his affairs in a manner befitting his rank and position. Received 30 August 1788. (*TR* 28, pp 157-9, no 438; *AR* 4, p 514).

¹ This and the following two letters were received as enclosures from Mr Duncan, the Resident at Benares.

1788

Sep. 9.

688. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has learnt from the letters of Mr Day and Nawab Nusrat Jang that the Board of Revenue have directed Messrs Day and Wroughton to withhold the *tankhwah*¹ of *dandis*², tailors and builders, who were formerly in the service of the *Nizamat* at Murshidabad and Dacca. Some time ago Mr Day confiscated the lands at Narinda³ near Dacca, which belonged to the *Nizamat*, saying that they were wanted by the Government and that if necessary some other lands would be given to the *Nizamat* in exchange. Says that the gentlemen (Messrs Day and Wroughton) had reduced the numbers of employees attached to the *Nizamat* at Murshidabad and Dacca to the minimum leaving only those without whom the business could not be performed. In 1188 A.H. (1774 A.D.) Mr Shore, while making the settlement of Dacca, reduced the expenses of the *Naiib Nazim*⁴ of Dacca to a great extent and kept a very small establishment attached to the *Nizamat*. If the *jagirs* of these people are sequestrated, much harm will be done to the business of the *Nizamat*. Requests his lordship therefore to direct Mr Day to restore the *tankhwah* of the said *jagirdars* and release the lands at Narinda. (*TR* 28, pp 159-60, no 439; *AR* 4, p 510).

Sep. 9.

689. From Raja Bishan Singh. Has not received any letter from his lordship for some time. Requests him to write frequently. (*TR* 28, p 161, no 440; *AR* 4, p 498).

Sep. 10.

690. From the widow of Lachhmi Narayan *Qanungo*. Sri Narayan Mustaufi and Jogeshwar Mustaufi are her old and trustworthy servants. For some time she gave charge of the *niabat*⁵ of *pargana* Rokanpur, etc. to Kishan Chand Ray who ruined the zamindari and reduced her and her dependants to distress and want. Realising that he would

¹ P. Draft for money, bill of exchange, an assignment by the ruling authority upon the revenue of any particular locality in payment of wages, pay, gratuity or pension.

² *Dandi* H. a boatman, a rower.

³ Narinda is a well-known quarter of the Dacca city.

⁴ A. Deputy of the Nazim, deputy governor.

⁵ A. office of a *naiib* or deputy.

never be able to manage the concerns efficiently she dismissed him and appointed Bireshwar Mustaufi, brother of Jogeshwar Mustaufi, in his place. Kishan Chand, however, is not making over charge to Bireshwar. He does not pay her a single pice for her household expenses. He has also removed the zamindari offices from Deapara¹ where she lives, to Maidapur² where he resides. Hopes the Governor-General will confirm the appointment of Bireshwar so that her interests may be secured. (TR 28, pp 163-5, no 443 ; AR 4, p 508).

Sep. 10. 691. From Ghulam Muhammad Khan. Has received his lordship's answer to his 'arzi. After he has received His Majesty's (Timur Shah's) answer to his lordship's letter, he will set out to pay his respects to him. Says that Saiyid Ghulam Naqshband Khan will explain all the particulars to his lordship. (TR 28, pp 161-2, no 441 ; AR 4, p 503).

St. 10. 692. From Manohar Das, Seeks the protection of his lordship against one or two evil-minded *gumashtas* who were dismissed from service by Gopal Das for their bad disposition. Immediately after his death they began to instill bad ideas into the heads of the members of the family with a view to bringing about the disruption of the house. The ringleader of these *gumashtas* has now come to this quarter (Calcutta) and is engaged in mischievously circulating the news that there exists a disunion among the members of the family. The residence of so evil-minded a person in the town is harmful to the interests of the house. (TR 28, pp 162-3, no 442 ; AR 4, p 512).

Sep. 693. To Mahadaji Sindhia. Has received his letter stating how after the crushing defeat of Ismail Beg, Ghulam Qadir Khan fled towards his country (Saharanpur)³

¹ Probably Damapara, once a suburb of Murshidabad on the right bank of the Bhagirathi.

² Old civil station of Mursnidabad.

³ Town and district in United Provinces. Sharanpur was the ancestral estate of Ghulam Qadir Khan.

1788

and later came back to Delhi at the solicitations of some of the ungrateful servants of the King and how after deposing and ill-treating the King he raised the son of Ahmad Shah (Prince Bedar Bakht) to the throne. Is glad to learn that the addressee is taking prompt measures to avenge the wrong done to His Majesty. Refers him to Major Palmer for particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 136-8, no 131; *AR* 4, p 551, no 220).

Sep. 10. 694. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter informing him of the communication which the Nawab has received from Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia. Refers him to Mr Ives regarding the reply the Nawab should write to the Maharaja. (*CI* 20, pp 138-9, no 132 *AR* 4, p 553, no 221).

Sep. 10. 695. To Ran Bahadur Sah, Raja of Nepal. Says that Dinanath Upaddhaya, the *vakil* of the Raja, has applied to the Governor-General for the grant of a *dast* in order to transport the 500 muskets which he has purchased at Calcutta at the instance of the Raja. Informs him that he is unable to grant the request of his *vakil* on account of the standing orders of the Company to the contrary. Sends him however a musket as present. (*CI* 20, pp 139-40, no 133; *AR* 4, p 545, no 222).

Sep. 11. 696. *Dastak* granted to Dinanath Upaddhaya, *vakil* of the Raja of Nepal, who is proceeding from Cutta to.....¹. The *rah-dars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed not to molest him for tolls and ties. (*CI* 20, pp 257-8, no 263).

Sep. 12. 697. From the Raja of Burdwan. Sends *in* on the occasion of *punia* ceremony held by him on 24 *adon*. (*TR* 28, p 165, no 444; *AR* 4, p 496).

Sep. 12. 698. To Raja Tej Chand of Burdwan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Is pleased to learn that he has safely arrived at Burdwan and that he fixed a

¹ Worm-eaten.

date for the celebration of *punia*. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 259, no 265; *AR* 4, p 527, no 223).

Sep. 12. 699. To Raja Gurdas. Has received his letter soliciting permission to come to Calcutta. Says that he would be glad to receive him whenever he may come. (*CI* 20, p 260, no 266; *AR* 4, p 533, no 224).

Sep. 14. 700. From Mir Muhammad Husain. The situation here remains much the same. Tipu is still at Calicut¹. On 26 *Shawwal* (31 July) Capt. Kennaway arrived at Hayatnagar which is five *kos* away from Hyderabad. He treated the writer very kindly when the latter went out to meet him. Every mark of honour and respect was shown to the Captain when he paid his first visit to the Nawab (Nizam Ali Khan). 'Yesterday', 13 *Zul-qada* (16 August) he again saw the Nizam and mentioned his lordship's friendship for him in a very pleasing and satisfactory manner. The writer, on his part, spoke to the Nizam in the same strain and emphasized that his lordship had sent Capt. Kennaway who possessed his confidence and was his kinsman² in order to strengthen the tie of friendship and that this measure alone would cause apprehension to the enemies of both sides. The Captain will write about this business more fully. (*TR* 28, pp 165-6, no 445; *AR* 4, p 513).

Sep. 14. 701. To Maharaja Bijai Singh. Complimentary reply (*CI* 20, p 140, no 134; *AR* 4, p 529, no 225).

Sep. 14. 702. To Bishan Singh, Raja of Bundi. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 141-2, no 136; *AR* 4, p 529, no 227).

¹ City and port in Malabar district, Madras. Former capital of the Zamorin and first place in India visited by the Portuguese.

² This appears to be a formal compliment. Kennaway does not appear to be a relation of Cornwallis. Lansdowne writing to Cornwallis in April 1788 says, "I am much obliged to you for your attention to the persons I mentioned to you. The Kennaways are friend's friend, being recommended to me by Sir Robert Palk but I am glad to hear they have merit...." and goes on to recommend one Fombelle whom he had himself brought up.—*Cornwallis Correspondence*.—

1788

- Sep. 14. **703.** To Rana Zalim Singh. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, *pp* 142-3, *no* 137).
- Sep. 14. **704.** To Munni Begam. Complimentary. (*CI* 20, *p* 143, *no* 138 ; *AR* 4, *p* 543, *no* 229).
- Sep. 14. **705.** To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter informing him of the departure of Prince Mirza Haji for Lucknow. (*CI* 20, *pp* 143-4, *no* 139; *AR* 4, *p* 538, *no* 230).
- Sep. 14. **706.** To Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, *p* 144, *no* 140 ; *AR* 4, *p* 524, *no* 231).
- Sep. 15. **707.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Hopes that his 'arzi which accompanied a *kharita* from the Nizam has been received by his lordship. The Nizam is busy with the construction of his building and the marriages in his family. De Montigny¹ is arrived at Hyderabad and will probably depart in a few days to Pondicherry. Tipu Sultan is still in the neighbourhood of Calicut. It is reported that he has sustained two or three defeats. Some of his people have arrived near the borders of the Nizam's dominions and so as a precautionary measure troops have been despatched to that quarter. Has received letter from Capt. Kennaway dated the last day of May from Cuttack. Further particulars are written in the enclosed newspapers.

News.—It is reported that Tipu has written to the Poona ministers saying that he has been informed of their intention to join the Nizam in an offensive alliance and that he is ready to meet the menace. This has alarmed the ministers and they have written to the Nizam about it.

¹ Col. De Montigny was French Agent at Poona (1783). In that capacity he served as a Liaison Officer with Delhi on the one hand (where the French had no accredited Agent) and Hyderabad on the other. He was later appointed Governor of Chandernagore and assumed office on 27 January 1789.

1788

Nana Farnavis has returned from his bath in the river Buttoo¹.

Qutbud-Din Khan² has commenced hostilities in the district of Kurnool³ agreeably to the orders of Tipu Sultan. The Chief of Shorapur⁴ has therefore applied to the Nizam for reinforcement. Consequently Shahamat Jang⁵ has been ordered to go to his assistance. Maharao Nimbalkar is an old *mansabdar*⁶ of this place and the fort of Hurreda has been in the possession of his family for several generations. Eight years ago he delivered up the fort to the Nizam but has not received its equivalent as was previously agreed upon by the parties. So he threw himself upon the

¹ This may be a misreading of Mutha in the Persian Text which however is not available.

² Qutbud-Din was the *Bakhshi* of *Bar-kachahri* i.e. the Department of regular infantry, in Tipu Sultan's army. The office corresponded in some degree with the General Staff Officer in the British army. He was also the *Qil'adar* of Gooty. In 1786 after the fall of Adoni Tipu Sultan bestowed the district on Qutbud-Din as *jagir* but next year the grant was revoked and the place restored to the Nizam.—Kirkpatrick: *Select Letters of Tipu Sultan*.

³ Town and district in Madras.

⁴ Taluk and town in Gulhargah District, Hyderabad.

⁵ Shahamat Jang's name was Asad Muhammad Khan. His grandfather, Muhammad Waliullah, accompanied Nizamul-Mulk when the latter left Delhi for the Deccan. His father who, as the author of *Gulzar-i-Asafia* says, was Nawab Nizam Ali Khan's foster brother, was granted *jagirs* and *mansab*. The titles of Amirul-Mulk, Amirud-Daulah and Amir Jang were conferred on him. In his early days, Asad Muhammad Khan was made a *mansabdar* of five hundred. On the 20th *Rabiul-Sani*, 1197 A.H., his *mansab* was raised to fifteen hundred and one thousand horsemen, and a banner (*alam*) was bestowed on him. On the 19th of *Jumadal-Awwal*, 1200 A.H., there was once again a substantial increase in his *mansab* and also in the number of horsemen. His total *mansab* amounted to three thousand and he was also the recipient of the rank of two thousand horsemen, a banner (*alam*) and drums. On the 6th of *Jumadas-Sani* 1201 A.H., the title of Shahamat Jang and on the 7th of *Shaban* 1207 A.H., the title of Amirud-Daulah were conferred on him. In addition to the *jagirs* he inherited from his father he received on 11th *Rabiul-Awwal*, 1184 A.H. from Nawab Nizam Ali Khan, personal grants amounting to Rs. 4,492. His heirs, after his death, had in their names in 1296 A.H. assignments to the extent of Rs. 15,850. At the time of Sikandar Jah, he held the office of the High Steward and a few years before he was in charge of the *Jawahir-Khana* (Precious Stones Department). Amirud-Daulah Asad Muhammed Khan Shahamat Jang died on the 27th *Zul-hijja*, 1236 A.H.—25th September 1821.

⁶ P. one in office; holder of some rank or office under the state.

1788

protection of the Poona ministers who seized upon the village of Jaipur in Ahmadnagar¹ in the Nizam's territory and made it over to Maharao. The village is said to yield a revenue of Rs 50,000. (*TR* 28, pp 167-9, no 446; *AR* 4, p 513).

Sep. 15. **708.** From Raghuji Bhonsla. Acknowledges his letter of condolence on the death of Mudhoji Bhonsla. Assures him of his firm friendship and hopes to be acquainted with the Governor-General's views and sentiments and advice and counsel on every subject in the manner hitherto established between the English and his family. (*TR* 28, pp 169-70, no 447; *AR* 4, p 517.)

Sep. 15. **709.** From Raghuji Bhonsla. To the same effect as the foregoing with the following addition. Bishambhar Pandit has been deputed to Calcutta in order to strengthen the bond of friendship. Hopes his lordship will listen to his representations and communicate his sentiments, unreservedly to the Pandit. (*TR* 28, p 170, no 448; *AR* 4, p 517).

Sep. 16. **710.** To Umed Singh, Raja of Kotah. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 141, no 135; *AR* 4, p 546, no 226).

Sep. 17. **711.** From the widow of Lachhmi Narayan Qanungo. By the kindness of the Government Suraj Narayan² has been honoured with the office of the *Qanungo* and the zamindari of Rokanpur, etc. On account of his youth the business of the zamindari is managed by *naiibs* under the writer's control. Kishan Chand was appointed *naiib* of the *pargana* of Rokanpur. In the course of two years he, in collusion with the *amala* of the Collector of Murshidabad, ruined her family in a systematic way. He appropriated to himself the effects of the *toshakhana*,³ granted remissions to the landholders with a view to making profit for himself and embezzled a sum of Rs. 40,000. He

¹ City and district in Bombay.

² Adopted son of Lachhmi Narayan Qanungo.

³ P. a place where furniture is kept, wardrobe; store-house, store-room.

encumbered the estate with a debt of Rs. 60,000 but failed to render the accounts. She was reduced to such distress that she had to sell her jewels in order to pay off the Government revenue for the year 1194. For these reasons she discharged him and selected Bireshwar Mustaufi, brother of Jogeshwar Mustaufi, in his place and applied to the Collector and the Board (of Revenue) for his confirmation. But the Collector was inclined to keep Kishan Chand in office and reported to the Board accordingly. Armed with wide powers from the Collector he brought peons into her house, removed the zamindari offices from there to his own residence in Maidapur and replaced her old *amala* by new men. He dispossessed her of the zamindari and gave several *mahals* to Ram Govind Mitter, the Committee's *Diwan*, under fictitious names. Warns that if, contrary to her wishes and intention, the Collector will continue Kishan Chand in the management she shall not be responsible for the payment of the revenue. Further she hopes that any embezzlement on the part of this man will not be allowed to affect prejudicially the interests of her son in the zamindari. Kishan Chand was confirmed in the *niabat* at her request and should therefore be dismissed now according to her wishes. She has not received the zamindari *mushahara* for the last two years nor has she received a single pice from the *pargana* for the last six months. She and her family are therefore extremely distressed for food and clothing. Prays that Bireshwar Mustaufi may be confirmed as her *naib* and that Kishan Chand be summoned by his lordship to render an account of the receipts and disbursements of his *niabat* to the *Khalisa*. (*TR* 28, pp 172-5, no 451; *AR* 4, p 508).

Sep. 17. **712.** Addresses respecting Mr Hastings from Nawab Nusrat Jang of Dacca, his brother Shamsud-Daulah Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, the principal inhabitants of Dacca and others. (*TR* 28, p 171, no 449; *AR* 4, p 495).

Sep. 17. **713.** From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Ever since he became linked in the chain of allegiance to the English Company he has severed all connections whatever with

1788

friends, relatives or strangers. Assures him of his sincerity and hopes for friendly letters. (*TR* 28, pp 171-2, no 450; *AR* 4, p 502).

Sep. 17. **714.** From Raja Kalyan Singh. Refers to the orders passed by the Court of Appeal against his brother, Bhawani Singh, in the case concerning the taluk of Abdush-Shakur. Has nothing to say about the orders but the account prepared by the Judge of Darbhanga on the representation of his opponents is unjust and involves a loss of a lakh of rupees to the writer. Prays therefore that Mr Mercer, Judge of Patna, and Mr Law of the *Zila Adalat* may be directed to check the accounts in the presence of both the parties. It will then be proved that the writer's contention is just and true. Declares on oath that his brother has not received the amount of money which is presumed in the judgment of the appeal case. (*TR* 28, pp 175-7, no 452; *AR* 4, p 508).

Sep. 17. **715.** From Munni Begam. Sends pickles and preserves for the Governor-General and hopes for friendly letters. (*TR* 28, p 177, no 453; *AR* 4, p 510).

Sep. 17. **716.** From Munne Ram, *gumashta* of Manohar Das. Requests orders to Mr Law, Mr Brooke and the Superintendent of the *Adalat* at Azimabad (Patna) to pay off the balance outstanding to the firms of Manohar Das at Patna. They may also be directed to pay attention to the representations of the local *gumashta* of the firm, Lala Sauda Mal. (*TR* 28, pp 177-8, no 454; *AR* 4, p 512).

Sep. 19. **717.** To Raja Tej Chand of Burdwan. Informs him that Mr Mercer has been appointed (Collector of Burdwan) in the place of Mr John Kinloch deceased and that the duties of his office will be carried on by Mr Brooke till he takes over the charge. (*CI* 20, pp 258-9, no 264; *AR* 4, p 527, no 232).

Sept. 20. **718.** From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has had no connection with the King or any chief of **Hindustan** ever

1788

since friendship was established between the English Company and the deceased Nawab, the writer's father. When Jahanabadi Begam, a widow of his late Royal Highness (Jahandar Shah), quarrelled with Her Royal Highness Qutlaq Sultan Begam and wrote to the Nawab on the subject, he at once resolved to report the matter to his lordship and act according to his advice. In the meantime the Prince (Shigufta Bakht) arrived at Lucknow and Mr Duncan wrote to Mr Ives that he was entirely unprovided for and should be supplied with everything. Both Mr Ives and the writer therefore paid him every respect. All the same, the Nawab was not satisfied that he should have come without his lordship's permission and wrote to Jahanabadi Begam accordingly. When Mr Ives received his lordship's letter saying that the Prince had left Benares without permission and directing the gentleman not to pay him visits, both the writer and Mr Ives desisted from doing so. If his lordship pleases, the writer will ask the Prince to return to Benares to his mother. Awaits his lordship's instructions. (*TR* 28, pp 178-80, no 455 ; *AR* 4, p 520).

Sep. 20. 719. From Balaji Rao Gobind. Acknowledges his two letters, one received through Mr Ives and the other through Shankar Rao.¹ Has now arrived at Benares and after performing the religious ceremonies here, will set out for Gaya in three or four days' time. Mr Duncan showed him every mark of friendship and appointed a guard of sepoys to attend on him throughout his jurisdiction. The officers all along the way have treated him with respect and consideration in accordance with the instructions of his lordship. Requests letters and refers to Shankar Rao for particulars. (*TR* 28, pp 181-2, no 456 ; *AR* 4, p 498).

Sep. 23. 720. From Haidar Beg Khan. Forwards through Mr Ives a bill for 5 lakhs of Lucknow sicca rupees, being the

¹ He was Shivaji Vitthal's *vakil* at Calcutta and appears also to have worked in the same capacity for Balaji Gobind.

1788

instalment payable at the end of *Bhadon*. Hopes to be honoured with letters. (*TR* 28, p 182, no 457; *AR* 4, p 503).

Sep. 23. 721. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has received his letter. Says that agreeably to his recommendations the Governor-General had issued positive orders to the Collectors of Murshidabad and Dacca to restore to the artificers of the *Nizamat* their *tankhwahs* which were sequestered. (*CI* 20, pp 144-6, no 141; *AR* 4, p 540, no 233).

Sep. 25. 722. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary. (*TR* 28, pp 182-3, no 458; *AR* 4, p 502).

Sep. 25. 723. From Raja Kirtibum¹. Says that his lordship might have known all his particulars from his *vakil*, Dharindhar Upaddhaya. The Raja of Nepal had taken possession of his zamindari but assisted by the Raja of Jumlah² and forty or fifty thousand of his own men he marched from Balrampur³ and arrived where the Raja of Nepal had encamped in the writer's zamindari. Hearing of his arrival he quitted the writer's zamindari and retreated about 10 *kos* towards Nepal. The writer did not think it necessary to follow him but the Raja of Jumlah marched with seventy or eighty thousand men towards Nepal. Begs his lordship to send him two battalions of sepoys so that the country of Nepal may be conquered easily or to write to the Nawab Vazir to help him in the accomplishment of his object. A favourable opportunity has now offered and it is hoped that such assistance will be granted to him as will settle his affairs. The writer had

¹ Raja of Mallehbumm or Parbat, one of the twenty-four principalities which constituted the Nepal dominions at the time of the Gurkhali invasion.

² Jumlah was an important principality adjoining Nepal on the west. Before its conquest by the Gurkhas 46 petty states in the neighbourhood were in some degree tributary to the Jumlah *Raj*. Its capital was called Chinnachin. It is now merged in the kingdom of Nepal.—Kirkpatrick: *Account of the Kingdom of Nepal*.

³ Town and estate in Gonda District, United Provinces.

1788

recalled his *vakil* during his lordship's visit to 'this' quarter. He will go back soon to attend on his lordship. In the meantime his (the *vakil's*) *naib* will wait upon him and it is hoped that his requests will be attended to. (*TR* 28, pp 183-5, no 459; *AR* 4, p 508).

Sep. 25. 724. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter. Is gratified that the Nawab has always given proper attention to his advice in respect of Prince Jahandar Shah and his family. Has at all times pointed out to the Nawab the motives that urged him to tender such advice to the addressee. Says that the policy which the Company had followed in regard to the present commotions in the Imperial affairs rendered it advisable for them to grant protection to the Prince in the Company's territories as long as it was needed. Does not, however, approve of the step now taken by Prince Mirza Haji in leaving Benares and going to Lucknow without previous intimation. Has therefore desired Mr Ives to desist from making calls on the Mirza. But while he has thought proper to give such instructions to Mr Ives, he does not wish that the Nawab should refrain from showing him civility, as in his present situation the withdrawal of the Nawab's aid from him might subject him to distress and trouble. The Mirza by his abrupt departure from Benares has forfeited all claims to the Company's protection and therefore his return there would be highly inconsistent with his own conduct and against the inclination of the Governor-General. Refers him to Mr Ives for further particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 146-9, no 142; *AR* 4, p 554, no 234).

Sep. 27. 725. From Raja Loknath. Complimentary. (*OR* 447).

Sep. 27. 726. *Raja of Burdwan to the Board of Revenue.* Has received a *parwana* stating that several orders were issued to him regarding the preparation and transmission of the papers of the *Ba'ze-Zamin*¹ of *chakla* Burdwan, but they

¹ *Ba'ze-Zamin*=(*Ba'ze*, P. miscellaneous and *Zamin*, P. land). Land exempted from assessment. Any land paying no revenue or a light quit-rent only, to the government, held under different tenures.

had not yet been drawn up agreeable to the form laid down by the Board nor sent to his lordship and desiring that he should prepare and transmit these papers to the Board in the course of 15 days. Says in reply that the misfortune which befell this district last year is well-known to the Board. From *Baisakh* to 15 *Sawan* he attended his lordship in connection with settling the balances of the last year. After his return he was busy in arranging the settlement and therefore could not make out these accounts. He is now, in pursuance of the orders from the Board, exerting day and night in preparing the accounts with the help of his *gumashtas*. Hopes that in a short time the rent rolls of each village will be made out and sent to his lordship. (*TR* 28, pp 185-6, no 460 ; *AR* 4, p 496).

Sep. 27. 727. To Balaji Gobind, *Sardar* of Kalpi. Has received his letter informing him that he has arrived safely at Benares and that after performing his pilgrimage there he will proceed to Gaya for the same purpose. Is glad to learn that Mr Duncan, the Resident of Benares, is rendering all possible help to the addressee during his stay there. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 260, no 267; *AR* 4, p 526, no 235).

Sep. 30. 728. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has not received his lordship's letter for some time. Says that she had entrusted all her concerns to the management of Nawab Akbar Ali Khan as he is her kinsman¹ but he has alienated all the old adherents of his late Royal Highness and has brought in strangers whose sole object is to throw everything into confusion. Her old servants are much dejected and her son, Mirza Haji, estranged by the conduct of the Nawab, and at the instigation of some evil-minded people, has separated himself from her. Everything is in a chaotic state. The Nawab, too, being instigated by

¹ Akbar Ali Khan was the maternal uncle of Prince Jahandar Shah while Qutlaq Sultan Begam herself was a scion of the same royal family as the Prince.

1788

the evil-minded people and knowing that the Begam is helpless, has given up the management of her affairs. She has consequently taken the superintendence of her own affairs upon herself. This is written for the information of his lordship on whose support she counts so much. (*TR* 28, pp 186-7, no 461; *AR* 4, p 506).

- Sep. 30. **729.** To Haider Beg Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of a bill for Rs. 5,00,000 in full payment of the Company's dues up to the end of *Bhadon* (August-September). (*CI* 20, pp 149-50, no 143; *AR* 4, p 535, no 236).
- Oct. 1. **730.** From the King, Shah Alam. Ghulam Qadir, a *qanungo* and resident of Allahabad, had obtained a *sanad* from His Majesty granting him some villages. The *sanad* having been destroyed by fire the authorities sequestered the villages from the *qanungo*. But in recognition of his right those villages have again been assigned to him by a *farman*¹ of His Majesty. Asks the Governor-General therefore to direct the authorities concerned that the villages should be restored to him. (*OR* 448; *TR* 28, p 188, no 463).
- Oct. 1. **731.** From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Says that his son, Nawab Dilawar Jang, has returned to Murshidabad from his trip and is now in good health. He very much enjoyed the company of Dr Glass. The latter will communicate full particulars to the Governor-General about him. Offers thanks to God for his son's recovery and expresses his gratitude to his lordship for his good wishes. (*OR* 449; *TR* 28, pp 188-9, no 464).
- Oct. 1. **732.** From Nawab Dilawar Jang, son of Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 450; *TR* 28, p 189, no 465).
- Oct. 1. **733.** From Munni Begam. Complimentary, acknowledging the receipt of his lordship's letter. (*OR* 451; *TR* 28, pp 189-90, no 466).

¹ P. Royal grant, charter or order.

1788

- Oct. 1. **734.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan. The misery and disgrace to which the King, Princes and inhabitants of Delhi have been subjected recently are beyond description. His lordship may have learnt the account of the occurrences at Delhi from newspapers. History does not provide a parallel for the horrors and cruelties which have been perpetrated upon the people of Delhi. (*OR 452 ; TR 28, pp 190-1, no 467*).
- Oct. 1. **735.** From Dil Diler Khan. Is glad to intimate that a son was born to him on 20 *Zul-qa'da*. Sends on the occasion some dry fruits with a quantity of sugar to his lordship according to the custom of Hindustan. Requests that he may be honoured with letters now and then. (*OR 453; TR 28, p 191, no 468*).
- Oct. 1. **736.** From Rai Dip Chand. Is honoured to receive two letters from his lordship in answer to his '*arzi*'. Is convinced that through the Governor-General's kindness the home (Farrukhabad) of the Nawab (Dil Diler Khan) will flourish and the writer will prosper. (*OR 454 ; TR 28, pp 191-2, no 469*).
- Oct. 1. **737.** From Nawab Saiyid Ali Khan of Dacca. Says that the Council and the Committee having retrenched a number of boatmen, tailors, builders and other persons of the *Nawara*¹ who were formerly in the service of the *karkhanajat*² of the *Nazim* of Bengal at Murshidabad and of the *Naib Nazim* at Dacca (Jahangirnagar), the Board of Revenue have directed Messrs Day and Wroughton to sequesterate the *jagirs*³ of those craftsmen and to collect the revenues thereof. On learning this news they have ceased working and his affairs have thus been thrown into confusion.

¹ H. the naval department or the river fleet, which was originally established by Muhammadan rulers to protect the Ganges and the Brahmaputra from the incursions of Magh pirates from Arakan and *jagirs* were granted to the boatmen and artificers of the fleet in lieu of wages.

² P. Workshops, factories.

³ These were subsequently restored. *Vide* no 721 above.

1788

Further, in the month of May 1787 his salary was reduced by Rs.537 as he has already informed the Governor-General. Says that like his ancestors he has always shown zeal in the performance of his duties to the Company. His lordship has several times assured him that his rank and dignity will be preserved intact. Hopes therefore that the amount deducted from his salary will be restored to him and that an order will be issued to the gentlemen named above asking them to withhold the sequestration of the *jagirs* so that all the craftsmen may return to their work and his affairs may run smoothly.

P. S.—The *mahals* in *jagir* to these people were never included in the *band-o-bast* of the Company but they were attached to the *Nizamat*. Hopes that this arrangement will continue. (*OR 455 ; TR 28, pp 192-4, no 470 ; AR 4, p 501*).

Oct. 1. **738.** From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Says that ever since he formed a connection with the Company, he severed his relations with all the other chiefs. He considers the friends of the Company as his friends and their enemies as his enemies. Assures him of his firm loyalty and sincere attachment to him and the Company. Is grateful to him for his favours. Refers him to Moti Lal for further particulars. (*OR 456 ; TR 28, pp 194-5, no 471 ; AR 4, p 502*).

Oct. 1. **739.** From the Rani of Burdwan. Has not received any letter from him for a long time. Says that she counts solely upon his lordship's support. Requests him to write frequently. (*OR 457 ; TR 28, pp 195-6, no 472 ; AR 4, p 497*).

Oct. 1. **740.** From the widow of Asaduz-Zaman Khan¹. Says that Bahadur Zaman Khan had deprived her of her property through chicanery. He is now dead. She looks upon his children as her own and is inclined to look after them.

¹ Son of Badiuz-Zaman Khan, zamindar of Birbhum. The zamindari was made over to Asaduz-Zaman Khan during the life-time of his father in about 1751. He managed the zamindari till his death, which took place at Calcutta in 1777. W.W. Hunter: *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. IV, pp 390-92.

1788

Requests his lordship to read the report sent to the Council by the Committee regarding her property and restore it to her. (*TR* 28, pp 187-8, no 462 ; *AR* 4, p 513).

- Oct. 2. **741.** To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Says that Lala Moti Lal, the Nawab's *vakil* has been granted leave for the celebration of his daughter's marriage. (*CI* 20, p 151, no 144 ; *AR* 4, p 532, no 237).
- Oct. 2. **742.** To Mir Muhammad Husain. Desires him to continue communicating the news of 'that' quarter as usual. (*CI* 20, pp 151-2, no 145; *AR* 4, p 541, no 238).
- Oct. 2. **743.** To Munni Begam. Acknowledges with thanks the receipt of her letter accompanying some pickles and preserves through her *vakil*, Nasir Muhammad Khan. Hopes to hear of her health now and then. (*CI* 20, p 261, no 268 ; *AR* 4, p 543, no 239).
- Oct. 4. **744.** From Asafud-Daulah, Nawab Vazir of Oudh. Has received his lordship's friendly letter stating that several merchants from Europe have arrived at Calcutta, that they have brought with them merchandise and manufactures of Europe and that out of them his lordship has been pleased to send two enamelled *katars*¹ for the writer through Tafazzul Husain Khan. His lordship has selected them as they are the manufactures of the ablest workmen in Europe. These have not arrived yet. But as they are presents of his lordship's choice and are sent out of regard for his friendship, he is exceedingly anxious to see the articles. Will write about the merit and worth of the articles after he has seen them. (*OR* 458 ; *TR* 28, pp 196-7, no 473 ; *AR* 4, p 520).
- Oct. 4. **745.** From Asafud-Daulah, Nawab Vazir of Oudh. Is much pleased to receive his letter intimating that Tafazzul Husain Khan had the honour of an interview with his lordship and that the Nawab would learn from the Khan the

¹ H. a dagger with a broad straight blade, the hilt of which comes up on either side of the wrist, and is grasped by a crossbar in the centre.

1788

attention and Kindness which his lordship has shown to him Says that the Khan has also written much on the courtesy and attention which he has received at the hands of his lordship. Hopes that in consideration of their friendship, his lordship's favours will ever continue to the Khan. (OR 459 ; TR 28, pp 197-8, no 474 ; AR 4, p 520).

Oct. 4. 746. From Hasan Riza Khan. Is greatly honoured to receive his lordship's kind letter saying that the merchants from Europe have arrived with a large quantity of goods and articles of modern inventions and that his lordship has selected an enamelled *khanjar*¹ from among them and sent it to the writer through Tafazzul Husain Khan. Says that the article selected by his lordship must be a unique one. As soon as it arrives, he will wear it as an emblem of loyalty and attachment to the Governor-General. Hopes to be honoured with letters every now and then. (OR 460 ; TR 28, pp 198-9, no 475 ; AR 4, p 504).

Oct. 4. 747. From Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 461; TR 28, pp 199-201, no 476; AR 4, p 504).

Oct. 4. 748. From Mir Muhammad Husain. On 19 *Shawwal* a letter was received from Capt. Kennaway intimating that he was arriving at Hyderabad on 25 *Shawwal* (30 July). Says that he intends to go out to meet him. A passport from the Nawab has been transmitted to him and in compliance with his desire *howdahs*, *amaris*², etc. have been arranged for his conveyance. Has also requested the Nawab to nominate either Nawab Mushirul-Mulk or Shamsul-Mulk to accord him a reception.

Has learnt from the Poona newspapers that the Marathas have intimated to the Nawab their intention of sending an expeditionary force under the command of Sawai Madhav

¹ A. a large knife, a dagger (generally curved and double-edged); poniard.

² P. a litter or seat with a canopy to ride on an elephant.

Rao (the Peshwa) for the conquest of territories, and they have asked for *mahals* in the district of Aurangabad, to the value of about 20 lakhs of rupees.

Qutbud-Din Khan, *Qil'adar* of Gooty¹ on the part of Tipu Sultan, proposes to build forts in the several taluks of Kurnool. With the arrival of the Sultan's troops in that quarter, the Nawab, as a precautionary measure, has sent about 5,000 men to Nawab Mahabat Jang at Raichur.² Consequently in Hyderabad there are no troops at this time. Sawai Madhav Rao has received a letter from the Raja of Calicut stating that he has inflicted a defeat on Tipu Sultan and that if the Peshwa assists him and attacks the Sultan from the other side, he will be crushed. The Poona Government have written that they will march to that quarter after the rains are over. (OR 462 ; TR 28, pp 201-2, no 477 ; AR 4, p 513).

Oct. 4. 749. From Bishambhar Pandit. Says that formerly the *Subadar* of Cuttack requested the Council that salt manufactured in Cuttack might be sold in Bengal. But the Council did not agree as they thought that the French *gumashtas* might also approach him for the purchase of salt. Mr Henry Vansittart then opened a negotiation through the writer as a result of which an agreement was drawn up and sent to Rajaram Pandit who however observed that the closest friendship existed between the Maharaja (Mudhoji Bhonsla) and the Company and that he was afraid that when money was advanced for the manufacture of salt disputes might arise which would disturb the existing harmony between the two states. So he would not supply salt to anyone. But the *gumashtas* of the English were free to make their purchases at Balasore by private negotiation. Mr Vansittart, having consented to this arrangement fixed a commission of Rs. 5 for the writer for every 100

¹ Town and taluk in Anantpur District, Madras. Formerly the seat of the famous Murar Rao Ghorpade from whom Haidar captured the place. Remains of the old fort can still be seen near the Gooty Railway station.

² Town and taluk in the Krishna Tangabhadra doab in Hyderabad State.

maunds of salt purchased by the Company in Cuttack. This was approved by the Governor-General and he was given a *parwana* which he still has in his possession.

For the last 3 years the Company have been purchasing salt but they paid nothing to him. Mr Vansittart is now dead but the agreement concluded by him is not thereby invalidated. Prays therefore for the issue of an order to the gentleman, who is acting in the place of Mr Vansittart, to make payment of his dues. The writer on his part will see that no one else gets the salt.

Copy of a parwana granted by Mr Henry Vansittart. Since it has been agreed with Beniram Pandit and Bishambhar Pandit that they shall receive Rs. 5 for every 100 maunds on all salt manufactured in the dominions of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla and purchased by the Company, they shall receive annually in Calcutta Rs. 5 for every 100 maunds of salt purchased there. Dated 18 November 1785.

Copy of a paper over the signature of Mr Henry Vansittart. Whereas Mr Wodsworth and Bishambhar Pandit have represented that prohibition on the export of salt from Orissa adversely affects the revenues of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla and is also distressing to the inhabitants of that district, therefore, in view of the friendly relations with the Maharaja and in order to relieve the ryots of the distress, the following agreement is drawn up. If this is approved, orders will be issued to Mr Wodsworth for the purchase of salt there.

1. All the *ihitimamdars*¹, *sardars*, and salt boilers shall be under the control of Mr Wodsworth and not a single tola of salt shall be exported to Calcutta without his permission.

2. They shall not sell salt to anyone except the Resident. The *Subadar* shall notify to the zamindars and talukdars

¹ P. supervisors, managers.

concerned that they should always obey the orders of Mr Wodsworth and that they should not receive the price of salt from any person other than him.

3. The Resident, after deducting the Government duty from the prices of the salt and paying it to the officer of that place, shall hand over the balance to the seller.

4. As the places and *aurangs* for manufacturing salt are scattered and all the salt is not of the same quality, the Resident shall determine the quality of each kind of salt and fix its price.

5. If anyone has any grievance against any salt concern, he should first inform the Resident, who after investigation shall submit his report to the Company. No complaint shall be entertained if it is not submitted through the Resident.

6. If, in future, anyone sells salt to any party other than the Resident, and if the latter's *paikar*¹ raises an objection to it, export of salt from that quarter shall be entirely stopped.

7. Those who may in future farm any of the salt *mahals* of that quarter will sell their salt also to the Resident at the fixed price. Dated 18 November 1785. (*OR* 463-5, *TR* 28, pp 202-6, no 478 ; *AR* 4, p 498).

Oct. 5. **750.** To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Sends a gold watch and a chain as present from himself. (*CI* 20, pp 153-4, no 147 ; *AR* 4, p 544, no 240).

Oct. 6. **751.** From Tipu Sultan. Has received his lordship's letter expressing his displeasure at the misbehaviour of the Raja of Chirakkal² towards the Chief of Tellicherry and stating that, in consideration of the friendship and treaty that existed between him and the Company, the Raja should be punished and made to pay up his dues to the

¹ H. agent, broker.

² Cherika, according to the vol. of translations.

1788

Chief. Says that the writer has learnt from the Raja who came to his presence along with his brother, that he had sent his *vakil* to the Chief of the factory at Tellicherry, but the latter deferred the adjustment of accounts, saying that he had called for them from Bombay. Soon after his departure from the writer's camp the Raja died and his brother succeeded him. The Chief, on learning the news of his death, expelled the *vakil* of the Raja from Tellicherry. The writer, however, in order to preserve the friendly relations intact, has directed the *Diwan* and the *Bakhshi* at Calicut to proceed to the frontier and summoning a representative from the Raja as well as one from the factory to make a thorough investigation into the affairs and settle the accounts with equity and justice. Requests the Governor-General therefore to direct the Chief of Tellicherry to depute his representative for the settlement of the accounts. (OR 466 ; TR 28, pp 206-7, no 479 ; AR 4, p 519).

Oct. 6. 752. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Is delighted to read his lordship's letter in reply to her *shuqqa*. Says that in view of the friendly relations, it is her duty to acquaint the Governor-General with every event great or small.

From her previous *shuqqa*, the Governor-General might have learnt that she had entrusted all her affairs, important or trifling, to Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah Ali Akbar Khan, relying upon him as her kinsman and not as a servant. But he so mismanaged the affairs that everything fell into disorder. He has now tendered his resignation thinking her to be a helpless widow. Having no alternative, she herself has taken charge of her affairs.

In the Begam's own handwriting.—Says that she is a helpless widow and that she looks upon none except God and his lordship as her protector. Solicits the Governor-General to show compassion to her in consideration of her late husband's (the Prince's) attachment to him, for she depends wholly upon his lordship's favours. Hopes to be honoured with frequent letters. (OR 467 ; TR 28, pp 207-9, no 480 ; AR 4, p 506).

Oct. 6.

753. From Ismail Beg Khan. Fazl Ali Khan, on his return, spoke to him in the presence of the other Mughal chiefs all about his lordship's good qualities and wisdom. Though he has not had the honour of paying his respects to the Governor-General, he has already shown his attachment to him. Some time ago a letter was addressed to him stating the particulars of this quarter (Delhi) and it was transmitted through the Resident at Lucknow but he received no reply to it. A second letter which was transmitted through Fazl Ali Khan also remained unanswered. Then all the chiefs decided that Fazl Ali Khan should go to Calcutta, as there were certain matters which could not be put down in writing. They could best be represented verbally. Accordingly he sent the Khan, having entrusted to him every secret which concerned the prosperity of the Vazir and the Company. Formerly whenever the Khan was deputed, he was introduced to the Vazir by the Resident at Lucknow, but this time, when he waited on the Resident as usual, no notice was taken of him and consequently he was neglected by the chiefs there. Says that it is a custom among the chiefs to admit of the intercourse of the *wakils* from all quarters. They are never denied this courtesy even where enmity prevails. But it is strange that no attention was paid to a person who was selected by one lakh of the late Nawab Najaf Khan's troops who profess friendship for the Nawab Vazir and the Company.

The writer has at present arrived at Delhi. His lordship may have learnt from the daily newspapers the events that have taken place and the highly improper act which a certain person has committed. If Fazl Ali Khan had been given a hearing and measures had been adopted in accordance with his representations this incident would not have happened. It was the writer's express wish that the government of His Majesty should have undergone no change, and that those few Mughals, who survived the late Najaf Khan, should have received small subsistence in consideration of their loyalty and attachment to the Nawab Vazir and the English. As no one listened to their represen-

tations, they kept silent. Says that if the Governor General grants them favour and assistance, the country will belong to him and the *vizarat* to the Vazir and that they will always be obedient to both of them. Requests the Governor-General therefore to approve of their allegiance and attachment to the Nawab Vazir and the Company. The Mughals have no concern with the Marathas and since the latter have seized the country which they (the Mughals) have taken with their swords without allowing them any subsistence they had no alternative but to go to war. If, through the English, the Maratha interference with the Mughals or their country, can be terminated and the return of the Marathas to their own country can be arranged, the writer is ready to enter into negotiations and conclude a treaty with the Company. (OR 468 ; TR 28 pp 209-15, no 481 ; AR 4, p 505).

Oct. 6. 754. From Fazl Ali Khan. Says that after taking leave of his lordship, he went to Akbarabad to fetch his family. There Ismail Beg Khan and other Mughal chiefs, having nominated the writer as their *vakil*, sent him to Lucknow. About three months ago two letters from Agra were transmitted to his lordship, one through the Resident at Lucknow and the other by post. The writer has been concerned in negotiations between the English and the Nawab Amirul-Umara (Najaf Khan) and others for the past 14 years, but now several dependants of the Nawab intend to interfere in his business. Requests the Governor-General therefore that in consideration of his freindship for the Company, he may not be replaced by any other person. Will shortly leave for Calcutta to pay his respects to his lordship when he will place before him the letters and *arzis* and make his representations to him verbally.

The situation of the army of the late Najaf Khan is that they have no dispute with anyone, but wish to continue in their zeal and friendship for the Company and Nawab Vazir. Has already intimated to his lordship the events that had taken place and hopes that he will grant the Mughals his support, and the latter in return shall be loyal to the Company.

1788

Encloses copies of letters from Ismail Beg Khan to the Vazir and the Resident at Lucknow for the Governor-General's perusal.

I. *Ismail Beg Khan to the Nawab Vazir.*—Says that though he has not had the honour of paying his respects to the Vazir, he owes allegiance and attachment to him. Some time ago a letter was transmitted to the Nawab, through the Resident at Lucknow, stating the particulars of this quarter but he received no reply thereto. Again, a second letter which was sent through Fazl Ali Khan also met with the same fate. Says that Fazl Ali Khan is the confidant of the writer and the other Mughal chiefs. They nominated him as their *vakil*, because they saw that he had been for many years in the service of the Vazir and was well acquainted with the manners and customs of that quarter and sent him to the addressee. He is charged with the communication of attachment and allegiance which they bear to the Vazir. Requests him therefore to give a hearing to him and communicate his sentiments on what he represents.

The writer has, at present, arrived at Delhi and the Nawab may have learnt from the daily newspapers about the events that have taken place there.

II. *Ismail Beg Khan to Edward Otto Ives, Resident at Lucknow.* Has received his letter in reply to his own, stating that Fazl Ali Khan communicated to him the writer's message. Says that formerly, whenever the Khan was deputed to Lucknow, he was introduced to the Vazir by the Resident but this time when he waited on the latter as usual, no notice was taken of him. The addressee is not unaware that it is a custom among the chiefs to admit of the intercourse of the *vakils* from all quarters. But it is strange that no attention was paid to the person who was selected by one lakh of the late Nawab Najaf Khan's troops professing friendship for the Nawab Vazir and the Company, in order to represent their views. Even

Sindhia's offer to give his help to the Mughal chiefs after he had conquered the eastern countries was refused by the latter, for they had centred their hopes in the Nawab Vazir. The writer is not discouraged at this treatment of his *vakil* by the chiefs of Lucknow, because he knows that when Nawab Ali Mardan Khan¹, Nawab Burhanul-Mulk² and Nawab Abul Mansur Khan Bahadur *Safdar Jang*³ first came to India, they too met with the

¹ Ali Mardan Khan, Amirul-Umara, was a native of Persia and Governor of Kandahar on the part of the King of Persia but finding himself exposed to much danger from the tyranny of his sovereign Shah Safi he gave up the place to Emperor Shah Jahan, and himself took refuge at Delhi in the year 1637 A. D. He was received with great honour, was created Amirul-Umara, and was at different times, made Governor of Kashmir and Kabul, and employed in various wars and other duties. He excited universal admiration at the court by his skill and judgment of his public works and the taste and elegance he displayed on all occasions of show and festivity. He died on his way to Kashmir, where he was going for change of air, on 16 April 1657 A. D. and was buried at Lahore in the mausoleum of his mother. —T. W. Beale : *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*.

² Sa'adat Khan, styled *Burhanul-Mulk*, whose former name was Muhammad Amin, was originally a merchant of Khorasan. He is the progenitor of the Nawabs and Kings of Oudh. His father, Nasir Khan, came to India during the reign of Bahadur Shah, and after his death his son Muhammad Amin came also. In the commencement of Emperor Muhammad Shah's reign he held the *Faujdar*i of Bayana, and was in the year 1724 A. D. appointed Governor of Oudh with the title of Sa'adat Khan in the room of Raja Girdhar who was appointed Governor of Malwa. He afterwards received the title of *Burhanul-Mulk* and was present in the battle with Nadir Shah, and died on the night previous to the massacre of Delhi by that monarch, i. e. on 9 March 1739 A. D. and was buried at Delhi in the mausoleum of his brother Sayadat Khan. His only child was a daughter, who was married to his nephew, Abul Mansur Khan *Safdar Jang*, the son of Sayadat Khan who succeeded him in the government of Oudh. *Ibid.*

³ Safdar Jang, Nawab of Oudh, whose proper name was Mirza Muqim and surname Mansur Ali Khan, was the son of Sayadat Khan. He succeeded Burhanul-Mulk Sa'adat Khan in the Government of Oudh after paying two crores of rupees to Nasir Shah in the beginning of the year 1152 A. H. (April 1739 A. D.). He was appointed Vazir in 1748 A. D. on the accession of the Emperor Ahmad Shah (in the room of Nizamul-Mulk who had died that year), and assumed the whole administration of the imperial authority for several years. He was however dismissed from the *vizarat* in 1752 A. D. and died on his way to Oudh at Paparghat on 17 October 1753 A. D. He was buried for some time at Gulab Bari in Fyzabad, his seat of government, but afterwards his remains were conveyed to Delhi and interred in the vicinity of the *dargah* of Shah Mardan where a splendid mausoleum was built over his tomb. He was succeeded in the government of Oudh by his son Nawab Shujaud-Daulah. *Ibid.*

same cold reception at the outset, but as they remained firm in their determination, their efforts were at last crowned with success. Thanks the addressee for a reply to his letter. Requests that the Khan may be introduced to the Nawab Vazir so that the writer may know his sentiments and those of the Governor-General and Haidar Beg Khan.

III. *Ismail Beg Khan to Fazl Ali Khan.*—Says that it is long since he was sent to represent important matters to the Vazir but nothing has yet been reported from that quarter nor did he intimate whether he got an introduction to the Nawab Vazir. When he was fully acquainted with the sentiments of the writer as well as those of the other party (Ghulam Qadir), he should have paid a visit to the Vazir and informed the writer of his views. Had the Vazir failed to pay due attention to his representations at the time, the responsibility of all the improper acts since committed in Delhi would have fallen on him.

The writer, against the wishes of the other party (Ghulam Qadir) sent Gul Muhammad Khan under some pretence to the King and similarly the addressee to the Nawab Vazir, but both of them failed to perform their duties. Urges on him again to procure an interview with the Vazir and communicate his sentiments to the writer. In case his representations are attended to, everything shall be done in accordance with the Vazir's wishes. Is of opinion that everybody (in this quarter) is devoid of comprehension and foresight, but hopes that his representations will make the chiefs at Lucknow realise the real situation. Encloses copies of his *arzi* to the King and other letters for his information. (OR 469-72; TR 28, pp 215-25, no 482; AR 4, p 503).

Oct. 8. 755. From Akbar Ali Khan. Says that his lordship is aware that after the death of the Prince (Jahandar Shah), the writer took over the management of his affairs, pursuant to the Begam's orders. When her allowance was reduced he applied to the reduction of her expenses correspondingly

1788

which displeased the Begam. Consequently he withdrew himself from her concerns and the Begam appointed a person of low rank in his place. Requests the Governor-General therefore to direct Mr Duncan to pay his *tankhwah* separately and not along with the allowance of the Begam. (OR 473 ; TR 28, pp 225-6, no 483 ; AR 4, p 494).

Oct. 8. 756. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has transmitted several letters to his lordship through Lala Moti Lal. The ungrateful conduct of Ghulam Qadir Khan at Delhi towards the house of Timur is well known. Says that his house too has been the victim of the relentless ambition and mischievous devices of his father, Zabitah Khan and grandfather, Najib Khan. His grandfather was originally a servant of the writer's grandfather, Ali Muhammad Khan¹. The writer is ready to punish the rebel, Ghulam Qadir Khan, with death, if assistance is given to him by the Company's troops. Hopes the Governor-General will frequently honour him with letters. (OR 474 ; TR 28, pp 226-7, no 484 ; AR 4, p 502).

Oct. 8. 757. From Muhammad Ali Khan, son of Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary, acknowledging his letter. (OR 475 ; TR 28, p 228, no 485 ; AR 4, p 513).

Oct. 9. 758. *The Nizam to Najmul-Mulk Saif Jang*². Capt. Kennaway, on his arrival here, has engaged himself in settling the accounts between his government and the Company and has demanded the cession of the *ta'alluqa* of Guntur to the Company. Accordingly the addressee is asked to hand over the charge of the said *ta'alluqa* immediately to the Company's officers and quit the place bringing with him the *wasil-baqi* of the *ta'alluqa* and the troops stationed there. (OR 476³ ; TR 28, pp 228-9, no 486 ; AR 4, p 514).

¹ Founder of the short-lived Afghan rule in Rohilkhand. Died on 14 September 1748.—*Bareilly District Gazetteer*.

² Revenue farmer of Guntur. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 465, no 9.

³ Received as an enclosure from Capt. Kennaway.

1788

Oct. 9. 759. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has not received any letter from his lordship for some time. Requests him therefore to write to her about his health frequently. (OR 477 ; TR 28, p 229, no 487 ; AR 4, p 506).

Oct. 10. 760. Memorandum delivered by Nawab Nizam Ali Khan to Capt. Kennaway on 14 September 1788. On 8 *Zulhijja* 1202 A. H. (9 September 1788 A. D.) a letter was received through the addressee from the Governor-General stating that his lordship, apprehending inconvenience to the writer and in view of his friendship and regard for him, had till then delayed bringing forward the just claim which the English Company had to the Guntur *sarkar* and that he had deputed the addressee to the writer's court, with instructions to make the demand of the said *sarkar* by virtue of the treaty¹ of 1768, to impress upon him the sincerity of his intention about the regular payment of the *peshkash* of 7 lakhs of rupees annually and to discharge the balances due to him on this account. Says in reply that it is not to be supposed that the claims to reciprocal and indisputable rights can occasion inconvenience, for it is incumbent on persons in power, endowed with sense and discernment, to offer the strictest adherence to treaties and not to make the slightest negligence in the establishment and maintenance of their just rights. As for Guntur, the Nizam would refer to the new treaty, which he transmitted to the King and Council of England through Mr Warren Hastings. The members of the Council have no right to demand the cession of Guntur so long as the Nizam does not receive a reply to his letter from the King of England rejecting or approving the new treaty.

¹ Article 2 of the Treaty of 1768 ran as follows :—

“By the aforementioned Treaty of Hyderabad it was stipulated that the Nawab Asaf Jah having given the Circar of Murtazanagar (Guntur) as a *jagir* to his brother the Nawab Amirul-Umara Shujaul-Mulk Bahadur Basalat Jang, the company should not take possession of the said Circar till after the death of Basalat Jang, or till he broke the friendship with the said Company by raising disturbances in the country of Nizampatam or the Carnatic.....the Company do agree and consent that Basalat Jang still hold the Circar of Murtazanagar on the aforesaid conditions, or till it be the pleasure of Asaf Jah that the Company should take possession thereof.....”

Again, Capt. Kennaway has represented on the part of Lord Cornwallis that as his lordship is firmly resolved to fulfil the just claims of the Nizam it is his firm conviction that the latter will make no delay in surrendering Guntur and a brigade is in readiness to march into the district within 14 days from the commencement of the talks. Says in reply that this is a matter of accounts which will require references to treaties and agreements and therefore the despatch of troops into the *sarkar* before arriving at any conclusion will be repugnant to the cause of friendship and alliance. Since the English claim to the said *sarkar*, according to the Governor-General's written declaration, is made on the condition of fulfilling the claims of the Nizam discharging the former balances and assuring regular payment in future, the addressee should give a categorical reply to the objections made by the Nizam to the demand regarding Guntur on the ground of non-receipt of any reply from England, meet his (the Nizam's) claims in accordance with the Governor-General's letter and assure him that all his rights will be safe in the hands of the Company so that the Nizam may have confidence in the original treaty by virtue of which the demand has been made.

There has arisen a doubt as to the implementing of some articles of the treaty besides that of the *peshkash*. This should also be removed.

In the settlement of the accounts full regard should be paid to the former balances, according to a just statement of receipts and disbursements and also to the present balance due from the said *sarkar*.

In conclusion, the Nizam adds that so long as these points are not settled the Company should never think of taking possession of Guntur as such an act will be regarded as unjust and contrary to the terms of the treaty. It may take 14 days or 14 months to conclude the talks but haste in matters of accounts is not proper for the Company. Is confident that the King (of England) and the Directors of the Company will certainly disapprove such infringement

of their treaty. The Nizam, on his part, is ready to give orders to his *ta'alluqdars* to refrain from offering any opposition so that the imputation of having violated the treaty may not be ascribed to him. (*OR* 478 ; *TR* 28, pp 229-41, no 488 ; *AR* 4, p 514).

Oct. 10. 761. Capt. Kennaway's answer to the memorandum of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Says that both the Governors-General, Mr Hastings and Mr Macpherson, had said that the conclusion of the new treaty depended upon the approbation of His Majesty (King of England). Had they confirmed it their successor (Lord Cornwallis) would likewise have treated it as an engagement of his own and would have abided by it accordingly. As the new treaty did not meet with the approbation of His Majesty the original treaty still remains in force. As His Majesty did not think it desirable to return a written answer to his letter rejecting the proposed treaty, he sent a message to that effect through his most trustworthy counsellor, Lord Cornwallis, who transmitted it to the Nawab on his arrival in India. The demand for the cession of Guntur has not originated from the Governor-General but it has been made conformably to an order issued by the Company after the new treaty had been received by them.

In reply to the objection to the despatch of troops (for taking possession of Guntur) says that they were not sent without previous notification of the demand, for in the first place Mr Johnson, at his third interview with the Nawab had asked for the cession of the Guntur *sarkar* but his request was not complied with. Again, when his lordship informed the Nawab that the new treaty had not been approved of, he also pointed out that the old one still remained in force and that its articles which included one providing for the cession of Guntur must be adhered to. More than a year has since elapsed, but the Nawab took no notice of it. Consequently his lordship deputed the writer to the Nawab's court for the adjustment of this business and ordered a brigade to be in readiness on the frontiers. Secondly, his lordship on his part engages to pay the arrears

and to meet the future demands of the *peshkash*. Thirdly, important matters of a political nature should not depend upon trifles such as the settlement of accounts or payment of previous balances but the basis of all transactions should be the treaties that subsist between the two parties.

In reply to the security of future payments and the liquidation of the arrears of the *peshkash*, the writer says that there can be no better security than the written declaration of the Governor-General who is of an exalted rank and is in the confidence of his sovereign. His lordship has commanded the writer to give the most solemn assurance for the removal of the Nawab's doubts, and he is ready to deliver it under his own hand to him, if he is called upon to do so.

As regards the Nawab's doubts regarding the fulfilment of some articles of the treaty besides that concerning the *peshkash* says that unless those articles are distinctly specified, no definite answer can be given but in general terms it is sufficient to observe that his lordship and his Council are ever ready to abide by each and every article of the treaty.

Regarding the adjustment of accounts, the Nawab is assured that the greatest candour and liberality will be observed in this respect. His lordship has peremptorily enjoined the writer that in the adjustment of accounts he must keep in view the principles of justice and integrity and must not deviate from them in the smallest degree. Hence no apprehension of unjust dealings should be entertained.

From the above statement it will be evident to the Nawab that there has been no infringement or violation of the treaty. Hopes that the fulfilment of mutual rights and removal of all doubts and suspicions will be productive of innumerable advantages now and for ever. (OR 479 ; TR 28, pp 229-41, no 488 ; AR 4, p 514).

1788

Oct. 10. **762.** To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Expresses satisfaction at the readiness with which the Nawab has surrendered the district of Guntur to the Company. Says that this gesture on the part of the Nawab will further strengthen the bonds of friendship existing between the two governments. (CI 20, pp 152-3, no 146 ; AR 4, p 544, no 241).

Oct. 11. **763.** Intelligence¹ from Ghulam Qadir Khan's *deorhi* at Delhi, dated 28 Zul-hijja (29 September 1788 A. D.). An account of the Rohilla disturbances in the bazars and streets of the Capital till noon 'today' has already been sent. Later, news arrived that the Rohillas had attacked the bazar *Urdu-i-Mualla*² and Dariba³ and had plundered the house of Ramratan Modi, where Rai Gopal Ray, the Sikh *vakils*, Shitab Singh son of Sahib Singh, and the *ahlkars*⁴ of Sabsukh Ray were residing. On hearing this Ghulam Qadir Khan asked Ismail Beg Khan to hasten to that spot, check the Rohillas from plundering and recover from them what they had plundered. Accordingly, Ismail Beg Khan proceeded with a force of 400 men, but he, too, joined in the plunder. Another *harkara* brought news that the Rohillas had robbed the Nawab's (Ghulam Qadir Khan's) *modi*⁵ of his carpets and tents which were given to him by the Nawab in lieu of his wages and had laid waste the *kuchas*⁶ of Gobind Ray, Achal Das and Mahtab Ray. From the top of *kucha* Bulaqi Begam⁷ some shots were fired which wounded four or five Rohillas. Manyar Singh was then sent to quell the disturbance

¹ Received as an enclosure from Major Palmer, the Resident with Sindhia.

² This was a bazar between the Lahori Gate of the Red Fort and the southern entrance of Dariba of which nothing now remains. It was called Bazar Urdu-i-Mualla or the Bazar of the royal camp owing very probably, to the circumstance of a portion of the local garrison having been once quartered about the place. 'The royal camp', according to the vol. of translations.

³ This is one of the oldest, most quaint and richest bazars of Delhi between Chandni Chauk and Jama' Masjid.

⁴ P. agents.

⁵ S. a purveyor, a steward.

⁶ *Kucha*. P. a narrow street, a lane, a narrow passage, an alley.

⁷ This is situated near Dariba.

1788

but no one paid any attention to him. In the meantime men of the *surkh paltan*¹ under the command of Bhimraj Singh² arrived at the scene and planted two pieces of cannon at Chandni Chauk³. Nur Khan accompanied by Ismail Beg Khan came and took his stand at Jama Masjid⁴. Shots were exchanged from both sides in Chandni Chauk and the Bazar Urdu-i-Mualla. The Rohillas then retreated into the fort. News then arrived that Ismail Beg Khan had gone to the tents of Mons. Dorson⁵ and Shaikh Haidar and, having taken them along with Mons. Baours,⁶ encamped near the Delhi Gate⁷ of the Fort Muhammad Khan, brother of Shujjan Khan, who had gone to the tent of Hakim Karimullah to fetch his effects left over there, was taken prisoner by the people of Mirza Ismail Beg Khan. The latter, on hearing this news, sent an order to Nur Khan to release him after seizing his effects. Muhammad Khan, on his release, went into the Fort. Two companies belonging to Manyar Singh, who were sent to watch the bullocks of the artillery while grazing, finding the gates closed, retired towards Anguri Bagh⁸ and

¹ Lit. 'red battalion' the imperial guards.

² Biem Singh, according to the vol. of translations.

³ The name "Chandni Chauk" means silver market place. This grand street of Delhi city was first laid out in 1600 A. D. by Jahanara Begam, daughter of Shahjahan. It extends from the Lahori Gate of the Fort to the handsome mosque of Fatehpuri Begam. The street was about 40 yards wide and 1520 yards long. Through the centre ran the canal of Ali Mardan, shaded on both sides by trees. The canal has long been covered up. Now it is the principal market of the city.

⁴ The Jama Masjid is the cathedral mosque of Delhi built by Shahjahan. It stands about two furlongs from Delhi Gate of the Red Fort. It still remains one of the finest buildings of its kind in India.

⁵ French Officer in Sindhia's service.—*Gwalior State Gazetteer*.

⁶ Major Baours was a Frenchman, and began his career in Begam Samru's force to the command of which he succeeded in 1783, after the murder of Pauly at Delhi. When De Boigne raised his first Brigade Baours gladly left the Begam's employ to take the command of a battalion in Sindhia's service. His career was however soon cut short for he was killed at the battle of Patan in 1790 A. D. E. Compton: *European Military Adventurers of Hindustan*.

⁷ Gate on the southern side of the Red Fort, so called after the Delhi Gate of the city which faces the ruins of the Delhi of Sher Shah.

⁸ This appears to have been situated in the vicinity of Fort Salimgarh.

1788

Nigambodh Ghat¹ where the Rohillas had already plundered the inhabitants.

Most of the inhabitants of the city and many Rohillas were wounded in the skirmishes and some of them were killed. Ismail Beg Khan issued a general warning against the molestation of the citizens. The Deccan (Maratha) troops have encamped adjacent to the *bain*² of Shaikh Muhammad and their cavalry is halting on the sands near the Fort. A boat and a float over-laden with heavy goods sank in the river. Gul Muhammad Khan, Matlab Khan, Allah Yar Beg Khan and Badal Beg Khan³ have gone to see Raja Himmat Bahadur and the Deccan chiefs. Ismail Beg Khan's ramparts and fences are fixed in the Khas Bazar⁴ and Chandni Chauk and the firing of artillery from both sides still continues. The Rohillas are passing to the other side of the Jumna⁵ by way of Salimgarh⁶ and until evening (the time of writing this report) the conflict is continuing. The Nawab is in the fort with the other Rohillas. One division of the Deccan troops has gone towards Qudsia Bagh⁷. (*OR* 480 ; *TR* 28, pp 242-4, no 489 ; *AR*, 4, p 504).

¹ This is situated in the vicinity of Fort Salimgarh and in front of the Gate of old Delhi which bears its name. Begampura Ghat, in the vol. of translations is obviously a misreading of the Persian text.

² H. a large well.

³ A Mughal chief who fought on Sindhia's side at Lalsot in July 1787. In July 1788 Badal Beg Khan having been sent to oppose the entry of Ghulam Qadir into Delhi went over to the enemy with his followers.

⁴ This joined the Jama Masjid with the Delhi Gate of the Red Fort. Of this nothing now remains. Through the Khas Bazar the Emperor used to go in state to Jama Masjid on feast days.

⁵ A great river of Northern India. Rising in Tehri State, eight miles west of the lofty mountain Bandarpunch, it passes through the outer Himalayas and various cities of the North, including Delhi and finally falls into the Ganges below Allahabad, 860 miles from its source.

⁶ An old Fort built by Salim Shah, son of Sher Shah in 1546. It is situated at the northern end of the Red Fort. After the construction of the latter it was used as a state prison.

⁷ This garden, which at one time contained an extensive palace, was laid out on the banks of the Jumna at a short distance from the Kashmir Gate, in the year 1162 A. H. (1748 A. D.) by Qudsia Begam, the wife of Emperor Muhammad Shah and the mother of Emperor Ahmad Shah. Stephen : *Archaeology of Delhi*.

1788

Oct. 11.

764. *Intelligence*¹ from the royal court at Delhi, dated 28 Zulhijja (29 September, 1788 A. D.). The state of affairs till 10 o'clock this morning has already been communicated. Later, news arrived that Ghulam Qadir Khan had gone to Nili Chhatrī² and employed himself in crossing his troops to the other side of the Jumna. The Mughals attacked the Rohillas and skirmishes had occurred at two or three places. Ghulam Qadir ordered the Rohillas to attack the Mughals in retaliation. On receipt of this order, the Rohillas began to plunder the Khas Bazar and the Dariba. It was then learnt that Mons. Dorson and Shaikh Haidar had secretly concluded a pact with Ismail Beg Khan, who at 2 A. M. rode to Hauz Qazi³ where the citizens complained to him that the Rohillas had plundered the shops and houses in the Dariba. He sent his *chobdar*⁴ to Nur Khan desiring him to send his men to the rescue of the inhabitants of that quarter and to attack the Rohillas wherever they could find them. He himself then came to the Turkman Gate⁵ and encamped there. There Mons. Dorson and Shaikh Haidar with their men and artillery joined him. Ghulam Qadir Khan, on learning this sent a message to him saying that it was not becoming on his part to entice his people away from him and demanding that Mons. Dorson and Shaikh Haidar should be sent to him. He then sent for Mons. Baours, who was encamping outside the fort. The latter replied that he was ready to go inside the fort but Mons. Dorson and Shaikh Haidar had deserted him and joined Ismail Beg Khan. It is reported that *vakils* of Mirza

¹ Received as an enclosure from Major Palmer.

² The tomb of Naubat Khan or Nili Chhatrī. Naubat Khan an amir of the time of Akbar, built this tomb during his life time, in 937 A. H. (1565 A. D.) and was buried here after his death. It is popularly known as Nili Chhatrī, from the fact of its dome having been originally ornamented with blue caustic tiles. It stands almost midway between Purana Qila and the tomb of Hazrat Nizamud-Din Aulia. C. Stephen : *Archæology of Delhi*.

³ Thoroughfare in old Delhi. It is said that there used to be a public *hauz* or reservoir of water built by some generous *qazi* in the days of the later Mughals.

⁴ P. staff-bearer, mace-bearer.

⁵ One of the seven main gates of Delhi city situated between Ajmeri and Delhi Gates.

Ismail Beg Khan and Badal Beg Khan, who had gone to the Maratha chiefs, had returned. Two Maratha chiefs came with them to settle several points in the negotiation and to tell Ismail Beg Khan that as soon as he would attack Ghulam Qadir, the Maratha troops would join him. Ismail Beg held a consultation with his chiefs. Ghulam Qadir ordered Hakim Bu Ali to postpone transporting the artillery and desired him to take the troops only across the river. A *harkara* brought news that the Maratha troops arrived near Kotla Firoz Shah¹ and Bahadur Ali Khan's garden. It was later reported that a representation was made to Ismail Beg that the Rohillas were plundering the Khas Bazar and the Dariba and molesting the passers-by. Ismail Beg ordered the *surkh paltan* and Shaikh Haidar to throw up trenches in that quarter. News then came that Nur Khan had repulsed the Rohillas who were plundering the Dariba and proceeded towards the house of Karimullah Khan from where he turned out Shujjan Khan and Muhammad Khan who were residing in that house and took possession of all the effects which were in it. Later it was reported that the men of the *surkh paltan* and *najib paltan* had planted two pieces of cannon near Dariba, one in Khanam Bazar² and the other under the Jamá Masjid. At about 4 P. M. Ghulam Qadir went to the Asad Burj where Manyar Singh saw him and received his order for placing one company of the garrison at the Lahori Gate³ of the Fort as a precautionary measure. Ghulam Qadir then went to the Lahori Burj⁴, where he ordered one piece of cannon to be placed and proceeded to the Delhi Gate of the Fort, and from there he returned to the Asad Burj. He determined to take five or six princes with him and cross over to the army. The attendants reported that on

¹ The citadel of the town of Firozabad built by Firoz Shah Tughlaq. It lies outside the Delhi Gate of the modern Delhi city. In the centre of the citadel still stand the ruins of the Jama Masjid of Firozabad and an Asokan pillar erected by Firoz Shah on a pyramid of cells.

² Business centre near Dariba, old Delhi. Khatim Bazar in the vol. of translations is obviously a misreading of the Persian text.

³ The most frequented Gate of the Fort. It is entered from the Chandni Chauk, the main street of Delhi city.

⁴ Tower on the Lahori Gate of the Red Fort.

1788

the previous night the camp had been attacked by robbers and three or four hundred men were wounded and considerable property was looted. It would therefore not be proper to cross over to the other side of the river. A report was then received that a large number of people had got into a boat to cross the river but it sank and the boatman ran away, that Ismail Beg had despatched Murad Beg Khan¹ towards Qudsia Bagh whither the Maratha cavalry was also moving and he sent Badal Beg and Matlab Khan to the Maratha chiefs. The Marathas desired Ismail Beg Khan to cause the city gates to be opened for them so that they might take possession of the city. Ismail Beg Khan replied that as fighting between him and Ghulam Qadir was going on it was not desirable for them to march that day and that on the next day he would meet them and then they might march in and take possession of the city with ease without causing any alarm to the inhabitants. Further, it was represented that the Rohillas had plundered the *kuchas* of Bulaqi Begam and I'jaz Khan near the house of Saifud-Din Khan, that fighting was going on and shots were being fired. The people have taken their positions in the trenches. (OR 481; TR 28, pp. 244-8, no 489; AR 4, p. 504).

Oct. 12. ⁷⁶⁵. *Intelligence*² from Delhi, dated 29 Zul-hijja (30 September 1788 A. D). 'Yesterday' news was brought to Ghulam Qadir Khan at Asad Burj that Ismail Beg Khan had sent Gul Muhammad Khan and Mirza Matlab Khan to Raghuji Sindhia and Raja Himmat Bahadur and that the latter had encamped near the bazar of Shaikh Muhammad. This annoyed Ghulam Qadir who sent word to Ismail Beg Khan that in consideration of the intimacy subsisting between them, he had great expectations from him and hoped that he should abide by their mutual pledges and that if he was displeased with the division of spoils, he could take half of the booty and allow him to cross the river. Ismail Beg replied that as his troops

¹ A noble man of Shah Alam's Court.

² Received as an enclosure from the Resident with Sindhia.

1788

had entered into negotiations with Sindhia (Mahadaji) nothing could then be done without his (Sindhia's) consent. Ghulam Qadir felt uneasy at this and returned to Salimgarh. There was a great scarcity of food in the fort in which there were lying about ten thousand *piadas*¹ and mounted soldiers.

It is reported 'today' that the camp (of the Rohillas) on the other side of the river had been attacked by robbers, that several Rohillas had been killed and that horses, camels and one piece of cannon had been carried away. A *harkara* brought news that Ismail Beg had been sitting in the Jamá Masjid and that Raja Himmat Bahadur and Ahmad Ali Khan had taken their positions adjacent to Takia Shab Bare². They had planted their artillery to fire on the Asad Burj. Ghulam Qadir's men evacuated the Burj and fixed two pieces of cannon adjacent to the house of Ghaziud-Din. Ismail Beg having learnt that a position adjacent to the Qudsia Garden was unoccupied, ordered Murad Khan to fix two pieces of cannon there in order to prevent the passage across the river from the side of Salimgarh Ghat. When this was done Ghulam Qadir Khan was greatly alarmed and proceeded to Salimgarh. His men got into four boats, but as there were no boatmen, they returned to the fort. He again sent word to Ismail Beg asking him to let him go across the river and got the same reply as before that the matter rested entirely with Sindhia and that he could not help him. Ismail Beg further added that if the fort was besieged he would let him go to the other side of the river on condition that he would relinquish every article of which he had robbed the King and the fort. Ismail Beg asked the people by a proclamation to open their shops which they did. Security now seems to be restored to the city. (OR 482; TR 28, pp. 248-50, no 490 ; AR 4, p. 504).

¹ *Piada*. P. peon, footman.

² The shrine of a Muhammadan saint on the bank of the Jumna about a furlong east of Rajghat. *Takia*: the stand or abode of a *faqir*.

1788

- Oct. 14. 766. To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has received his letter informing him of the recent events of Shahjahanabad. (The remaining portion of the letter is badly worm-eaten). (CI 20, pp. 261-2, no 269; AR 4, p. 523, no 242).
- Oct. 14. 767. To Nawab Dilawar Jang, son of Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received his letter through Hikmat Ma'ab Khan. Congratulates him on his recovery and safe return to Murshidabad after a change of climate. Returns the *nazr*, as it is not the practice now to accept it but appreciates the compliment. (CI 20, p. 262, no 270; AR 4, p. 531, no 243).
- Oct. 14. 768. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. To the same, effect as the foregoing. (CI 20, pp. 262-3, no 271; AR 4, p. 542, no 244).
- Oct. 14. 769. To Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan, son of Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p. 263, no 272; AR 4, p. 542, no 245).
- Oct. 14. 770. To Nawab Dil Diler Khan. Has received his letter informing him of the birth of a son to him. Congratulates him on this auspicious occasion and prays for the good fortune and long life of the baby. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (CI 20, pp. 263-4, no 273; AR 4, p. 531, no 246).
- Oct. 14. 771. To Rai Dip Chand. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p. 264, no 274; AR 4, p. 531, no 247).
- Oct. 15. 772. From the Raja of Burdwan. His *vakil* must have apprised his lordship of the exertions that the Raja made in making the *bila-bandi*¹ of Burdwan and the loss that he suffered in his farm. Nevertheless from *Punia* to the month of *Asin* all the *qists* have been paid and the arrears of 1194 B. S. (1787-8 A. D.) up to the end of *Sawan* have been cleared. In spite of all this Mr Brooke stationed

¹ H. an account of the revenue settlement of a district, specifying the name of each *mahal*, the farmer of it and the amount of the rent.

1788

40 peons over the Raja and ordered that until the Raja paid, as he had agreed, the sum of Rs. 40,000 on account of the arrears they should keep him in their custody. Having no alternative he borrowed money and paid that amount. Says that his lordship has been pleased to fix his revenues at 40 lakhs of rupees, but if he is treated in this manner then he cannot hope to pay the amount. The Raja paid in full the revenue for the year 1194 B. S. (1787-8 A. D.) to the late Mr Kinloch, who kept a large amount thereof in a suspense account and did not give him credit for it in the hope of writing it off under the head of inundation. Thus the money, paid by him to Mr Kinloch, was not credited to the accounts of the Company and the same was shown as arrears against him. He has, nevertheless, paid this money over again to Mr Brooke, calculated as arrears up to the month of *Asin* last, in order to save himself from disgrace. Requests that he may be allowed to pay his revenues at the Presidency till the arrival of the new Collector, that the (alleged) arrears, having been already paid to Mr Kinloch, may not be demanded from him and that his lordship may not attend to what Mr Brooke writes against him. (OR 483; TR 28, pp 250-1, no 491; AR 4, p 496).

Oct. 15. 773. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Says that the state of affairs at Delhi and the piteous condition of the King and the princes are too lamentable to be related. The business of the *Adalat* is going on satisfactorily with the full co-operation of Mr Duncan. (OR 484; TR 28, pp. 251-2, no 492; AR 4, p 495).

Oct. 15. 774. From the Raja of Jaipur. Complimentary. (OR 485; TR 28, p. 252, no 493; AR 4, p 505).

Oct. 15. 775. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Intimates that the Chief of Malda¹ has sent several consignments of sweet mangoes probably at the instance of the Governor-General. Thanks his lordship for this mark of friendship. (OR 486, TR 28, pp 252-3, no 494; AR 4, p 520).

¹ Town and district in Bengal.

16. 776. To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter intimating that Nawab Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan has been removed from her service and that she has herself taken over the charge of her affairs. Says that he has written his views to Mr Duncan about the Khan's resignation. Refers her therefore to that gentleman for particulars. (*CI 20, pp 154-5, no 148 ; AR 4, p 538, no 248*).
16. 777. To Nawab Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan. Has received his letter intimating his withdrawal from the management of Qutlaq Sultan Begam's affairs and requesting the payment of his *tankhwah* separately. Refers him to Mr Duncan for particulars relating to his allowance. (*CI 20, pp 155-6, no 149 ; AR 4, p 524, no 249*).
16. 778. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received his letter stating how Ghulam Qadir Khan, the ungrateful servant of His Majesty (Shah Alam), ill-treated his master and the other members of the royal family, and saying that if the English troops are sent to punish the rebel, the Nawab would be found in the forefront of their ranks seeking to cut off the head of Ghulam Qadir. Refers the Khan to his previous letters wherein he has repeatedly stated that he is not permitted to interfere in these matters. (*CI 20, pp 156-7, no 150 ; AR 4, p 532, no 250*).
19. 779. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Intimates that Mirza Muzaffar Bakht has left her protection and is now residing with Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah (Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan) a man who is bent upon ruining her affairs. Says that the Mirza is the issue of a slave girl whom the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) had taken into his harem. It is reported that the Nawab proposes to take the Mirza to Calcutta in order to present him before the Governor-General. The Begam is helpless and has none except the Governor-General to look after her interests. In pursuance of the instructions of the latter she has always complied with the directions of Mr Duncan and it was on the advice of this gentleman that she gave up the idea of visiting the Governor-

1788

General at Calcutta. Represents that formerly a sum of Rs. 35,000 was fixed for the expenses of her late husband but this amount was subsequently reduced to Rs. 25,000. After his death a sum of Rs. 17,000 was allotted to her for her expenses. Out of this amount a sum of Rs. 5,000 was next separated as the allowances of Mirza Shigufta Bakht and Jahanabadi Begam and to the writer was left an allowance of Rs. 12,000 only. This amount is hardly adequate to meet all her expenses. Now that Mirza Muzaffar Bakht has deserted her, she fears that her allowance will undergo a further reduction to the extent of his share in it. If this is done it will further weaken her financial position. Requests the Governor-General therefore to see that she is not put to financial difficulties but is allowed to pass the remainder of her days peacefully. (*OR* 487 ; *TR* 28, pp 253-5, no 495 ; *AR* 4, p 506).

Oct. 19. 780. From Nawab Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan. Says that Mirza Muzaffar Bakht repeatedly wrote to him that he had always shown due respect and deference to his mother (Qutlaq Sultan Begam) and that he expected kindly treatment at her hands but unfortunately all his expectations proved false, because he in return always experienced distress for clothing and other necessary expenses. The Mirza further told him that he occasionally suffered such humiliations as were unworthy of a prince. He desired the writer to represent his situation to Mr Duncan and to rectify his affairs. But owing to the suspicious nature of the Begam, who may accuse him of seducing the Mirza, the writer kept himself aloof from this business. On 8 *Muharram* (9 October) however the Mirza paid a visit to Mr Duncan and represented his case to him. The latter offered proper and prudent advice. The Mirza then summoned the writer and expressed his desire to reside with him till such time as a suitable accommodation was available for him. Has written all these particulars for the information of the Governor-General. Refers him to the Mirza's letter for particulars. (*OR* 488 ; *TR* 28, pp 255-6, no 496 ; *AR* 4, p 494).

'88

*. 19. 781. From Mirza Muzaffar Bakht. The humiliation and ill-treatment that he has been receiving at the hands of his mother (Qutlaq Sultan Begam) cannot be adequately described. He, on his part, was never remiss in the observance of filial duty and expected naturally to receive a kindly treatment from her. But his expectations were belied, for the writer experienced distress even for clothing and other necessary expenses. His late father (Jahandar Shah) treated all his children alike and there was a distinction between the elders and the younger in the family. But after his death persons of low rank gained influence over the Begam and in order to serve their own ends they brought about a chaos in her affairs. The writer unable to bear these indignities approached Mr Duncan and represented to him all about his situation. The gentleman gave him sound advice and directed him to follow the dictates of his own conscience. The gentleman further suggested that the writer should reside with Nawab Saiyid Akbar Ali Khan till such time as a suitable house for his accommodation was available. As the Governor-General is his patron and well-wisher he has written these particulars to him for his information. (OR 489, TR 28, pp 256-7, no 497; AR 4, p 514).

Oct. 20. 782. *Intelligence from the Deccan, dated 5 Zul-hijja* (6 September). Maharaja Madhav Rao Narayan and Nana Farnavis are as usual at Poona. Sobraji Pandit¹, the *vakil* of the Peshwa, who was negotiating with the Nizam about the Peshwa's expedition to the Carnatic in order to make its settlement, has arrived at Poona where he is still staying. The Peshwa is exceedingly pleased to hear the news of the victory of Raja Mahadaji Sindhia over Ismail Beg Khan and has ordered salutes to be fired to celebrate the occasion. Tipu, the son of Haidar Naik, had advanced up to the district of Bayawar, a place at a distance of 100 *kos* from Seringapatam and he was defeated by Bijairam, the

Sivaji Pandit, according to no. 458 above.

1788

Raja of that place. Tipu then returned to Bangalore¹, leaving his younger brother with troops and artillery to fight the Raja. It is reported that the English troops from Madras have reached there to assist the Raja. The English at Madras have also written to the Nizam and the Peshwa to march in order to subjugate the countries that are still in the possession of Tipu. An army of four to five thousand cavalry belonging to Tipu has arrived in Kurnool. Ranmast Khan², the *Faujdar* of that place, and Raja Sambhupal, and other zamindars of that quarter are greatly alarmed. In the Deccan monsoon has set in. Prices of the grains that had gone up on account of drought have come down. In Aurangabad, the shroffs and the bankers have long been in custody for having put base coins in circulation and the heavy fines imposed upon them are being realised with great severity, though some of them lack the means to pay the fines. Nawab Nizam Ali Khan is at Hyderabad and the English Resident there is persuading him to march in conjunction with the Peshwa (against Tipu). (*OR* 490 ; *TR* 28, pp 257-9, no 498 ; *AR* 4, p 504).

Oct. 20. 783. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Some time ago he had informed the Governor-General of the safe return of his son, Dilawar Jang, from a river trip. Says that the present weather at Murshidabad is proving disagreeable to Dilawar Jang and it has therefore been thought proper that he should leave the city and reside somewhere in its neighbourhood for a few days. Since the Governor-General is so kind to his son, it is but proper that he should be informed. (*OR* 491 ; *TR* 28, p 259, no 499 ; *AR* 4, p 509).

¹ Mangalore, according to the vol. of translations. Bangalore is the seat of government of the Mysore State and Headquarters of the Bangalore Brigade, 219 miles from Madras by rail. Originally there was a mud fort here which was enlarged and built with stone in 1761 under Haidar Ali. It was captured by the British in 1791, subsequently dismantled by Tipu Sultan, but restored in 1799.

² Ranmast Khan, also known as Munavvar Khan, was the *Faujdar* of Kurnool from 1752 to 1792 A. D.

1788

Oct. 21. 784. *Bhawani Pandit to Beniram Pandit*. Says that the Zamindar of Sambalpur¹ is well known for his evil disposition. During the time of Janoji Bhonsla he had plundered some guns and stores that were coming by way of Cuttack. Some time later, the Zamindar established a friendship with Rajaram Pandit but recently when the latter despatched from Cuttack some bales of woollen cloth and other articles for Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla the Zamindar plundered these articles, killed those who were carrying them and closed the road. It is necessary therefore that this refractory Zamindar should be adequately punished for his contumacy. In order to effect this, troops will shortly be despatched from this place (Nagpur). Since a strong friendship subsists between the Company and the Maharaja it is but proper that the English battalions stationed in Chota Nagpur² should join the Maharaja's forces in chastising the culprit. Asks the addressee therefore to procure a letter from the Governor-General in the name of the gentlemen in Chota Nagpur directing them to assist the Maharaja's forces in punishing the Zamindar. (OR 492 ; TR 28, pp 260-1, no 500 ; AR 4, p 499).

Oct. 22. 785. From Nawab Diler Himmat Khan. Is sending Munshi Wajhullah as his *vakil* to the Governor-General's presence. Hopes that the latter will pay due attention to the representations of the *vakil*. (OR 493 ; TR 28, pp 261-2, no 501 ; AR 4, p 502).

Oct. 22. 786. From Nawab Khiradmand Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 494 ; TR 28, p 262, no 502 ; AR 4, p 507).

Oct. 22. 787. From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Judge at Benares. It is reported in the newspaper that on 30 September the Maratha troops and Sindhia's battalions arrived at Delhi and that Ismail Beg Khan has formed a pact of alliance with

¹ Town and district in Orissa.

² A division in Bihar with its headquarters at Ranchi. It includes the districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Palamau, Manbhum and Singbhum.

1788

Sindhia. It is further reported that an engagement took place in the city (of Delhi) between Ismail Beg Khan and Ghulam Qadir Khan and in the end the latter, being repulsed, sought refuge in the fort. Firing still continues with muskets and cannon but it appears that Ghulam Qadir is alarmed and contemplates flight. Dated 8 October 1788. (OR 495 ; TR 28, p 264, no 504 ; AR 4, p 495).

Oct. 22. 788. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. It is reported that on 1 *Muharram* (2 October) about midnight Ghulam Qadir Khan took large quantities of goods from the fort of Delhi and crossed over to the other side of river (Jumna) where he found his army encamped. The newspapers also report that the Khan's brother is still in the fort ready to give battle, if necessary, and that Ismail Beg Khan, having entered into a negotiation with the Maratha commanders, has concluded an agreement with Sindhia. (OR 496 ; TR 28, p 264, no 505 ; AR 4, p 495).

Oct. 22. 789. From Raja Udwant Chand. Complimentary. (OR 497 ; TR 28, p 265, no 506 ; AR 4, p 496).

Oct. 22. 790. From Raja Bhairo Chand. Says that his uncle Anandram Chaudhri, the Zamindar of *pargana* Taherpur¹, adopted him as his son and he expired shortly after making over his zamindari to the writer. The writer as well as his mother, Uma² Chaudhrain, the widow of the deceased, has already communicated these particulars to the Governor-General. In consideration of the tender age of the writer the management of the zamindari and the education of the writer were entrusted to Binodram³ Ray, the younger brother of Gokul Chaudhri⁴, deceased. This year the writer's mother also died leaving him all alone. Solicits the Governor-General's favour and protection in his present situation. (OR 498 ; TR 28, pp 265-6, no 507 ; AR 4, p 498).

¹ *Pargana* in Dinajpur District.

² Adman, according to the vol. of translations.

³ Rooderam, according to the vol. of translations.

⁴ Anunderam, according to the vol. of translations.

1788

- Oct. 22 791. From the Raja of Jaipur. Says that his lordship's presents are still at Lucknow. Requests him to issue an order for their safe transport to him. Hopes to be honoured with frequent letters. His lordship must have heard about the events which have taken place in this quarter (Delhi). Wishes to know his lordship's inclination so that he may act accordingly. (*TR* 28, p 263, no 503 ; *AR* 4, p 505).
- Oct. 22 792. To Kirtibum, Raja of Mallebhum. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 157-8, no 151 ; *AR* 4, p 539, no 251).
- Oct. 23 793. From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Informs the Governor-General that he proposes to set out for Calcutta on 23 *Muharram* (24 October) in order to pay him a visit. (*OR* 499 ; *TR* 28, p 266, no 508 ; *AR* 4, p 518).
- Oct. 23 794. From Ming Maha Siha Surah, minister of the King of Pegu¹. Informs the Governor-General that the ports of Burma are open to all the nations who may desire to send their vessels to these coasts for commercial purposes. Says that Capt. Forrest² arrived at Pegu from the Malay Coasts with a ship laden with a cargo of areca-nuts and was welcomed here on landing. Mr Jackson, the pilot informed him that the vessel was the property of Messrs Mackintosh Dallas & Co. The cargo of the ship was then disposed of and after re-loading she is now proceeding to Bengal under the command of Mr Jackson. Hopes that the Governor-General on her arrival in Bengal will deliver her over to the rightful owner. Requests the Governor-General for favour of his reply. (*OR* 500 ; *TR* 28, pp 266-7, no 509 ; *AR* 4, p 516).
- Oct. 23 795. *Extracts from Delhi newspapers, October 11.* Rana Khan has received letters from (Mahadaji) Sindhia saying that there had been an engagement between Tukoji Holkar and Ali Bahadur on one side and Bhimraj Bakhshi and other

¹ The original letter is in the Burmese language.

² Capt. Thomas Forrest. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 137, f. n. 2.

commanders in the army of Raja Bijai Singh of Jodhpur on the other at a distance of 40 *kos* from Jodhpur. A large number of men had been killed and wounded on both sides, but the former had the better of the latter. Bhimraj Bakhshi has been reported to be wounded. Raja Himmat Bahadur and Raghuji Sindhia¹ opined that the Raja of Jodhpur would call Ismail Beg Khan to his assistance.

Oct. 12. The battalions under the command of Samru's son² declare their intentions of quitting Rana Khan for non-payment of their wages. Endeavours are being made to retain them. A *golandaz*³ made his escape from the fort and reported that there were about 300 Rohillas in the fort under the command of Manyar Singh who intended after spiking all the guns, to join Ghulam Qadir on the other side of the river with all the *golandazes* in the service of Shah 'Alam. But as they are the servants of the deposed King, they will desert him whenever assistance can be given to them. News arrived from the army of Ghulam Qadir that on hearing of the approach of the Marathas, Ghulam Qadir marched from his camp with a large detachment when the Marathas fled away and the Rohillas set fire to their camp. On his return he paid a visit to Bahadur Shah⁴ and presented him with a turban. Then he went to the sons of Shah Alam who were in his camp. After abusing them much and accusing them of having been instrumental in summoning the Marathas to Delhi, he became more respectful in his conduct and presented them each with a turban which they refused. Ghulam Qadir immediately seized a turban from the head of one of the Rohillas and flung it at Mirza Akbar Shah. He then went to his own tent and wrote letters inviting the Sikhs. A *golandaz* brought news that the Rohillas had evacuated the fort by way of Salimgarh, but Ghulam Qadir Khan brought

¹ Ragojea Scindea, according to the vol. of translations. Probably Ravloji Sindhia.

² Zafar Yab Khan.

³ P. a cannonier, gunner, bombardier.

⁴ This is evidently a mistake for Bed r Shah who was raised to the throne by Ghulam Qadir.

them back to the fort along with about ten *golandazes*. He also reported that very few Rohillas were left in the fort. At this time a *harkara* brought news that the Rohillas had barred the gates and quitted the fort. A loud report was then heard from the fort, which was supposed to have been occasioned by an explosion in the magazine to which Ghulam Qadir had set fire.

Oct. 12, despatched at midnight. The foregoing paper had chronicled the day's happenings till noon. This is the account of what followed afterwards. Ghulam Qadir, having visited every apartment of the fort and locked all the doors himself, went to Shah Alam and abused him very much. He then took away the remaining effects to Salimgarh and shut its gates from the outside and crossed the river. Then the women and other royal prisoners went on the ramparts and made signs that the fort had been evacuated. A servant of Ahmad Ali Khan noticed it and reported the matter to his master, who went along the banks of the Jumna with about 200 people and, by the aid of ladders, about forty men went up and hoisted a flag on the rampart. They were followed by the battalions of *Najib* and *Dobis*¹. Raja Himmat Bahadur and Raghuji Sindhia followed them later and with large bars of iron forced open the gates. Then accompanied by Ahmad Ali Khan and Ramratan Modi, they paid their respects to Shah Alam whom they found sitting almost naked. They were much afflicted at the sight and presented their *nazrs* to him. The King told them that Ghulam Qadir had entirely ruined his family and had taken with him Akbar Shah and his other sons, grandsons and several others, in all 14 persons, leaving him in the state in which they found him. For four days he had no food or drink. Himmat Bahadur immediately presented him with some of his clothes. Provisions were supplied to him and also to the female apartments. Twelve Rohillas were found in the fort and taken prisoner.

¹ This appears to be a corruption of De Boigne.

Raghuji Sindhia ordered De Boigne's¹ battalions to mount guard over the fort.

When Ghulam Qadir quitted the fort the famished women and other prisoners went to the ramparts and begged for food from the people below who supplied whatever they could by means of clothes and strings thrown over the wall by these captives. This was the case until evening. A *harkara* brought news from the other side of the river that Ghulam Qadir had safely reached his camp. It is learnt that he intends to go either to Aligarh or to Saharanpur. (*TR* 28, pp 267-71, no 510 ; *AR* 4, p 504).

Oct. 23 796. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received his letter. Says that Nawab Dilawar Jang is at liberty to reside wherever he likes in the neighbourhood of Murshidabad for the recovery of his health. (*CI* 20, pp 264-5, no 275 ; *AR* 4, p 542, no 252).

Oct. 24 797. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has just learnt from the newspapers that on October 9, 1788 Rana Khan and other Maratha commanders in conjunction with Ismail Beg Khan attacked the fort of Delhi and forced open one of the gates. Resistance was offered to them and fighting took place with sword and musket. At length, Manyar Singh Kumedan, who was the chief of the garrison on the part of Ghulam Qadir Khan, was captured by the Marathas. Many people were killed and wounded on either side. Rana Khan released His Majesty Shah Alam from the room in which he was confined by Ghulam Qadir and the entrance to which had been barred by him before he left the fort. Rana Khan showed every mark of respect and honour to His Majesty. The Marathas stationed their own garrison in the fort. Ghulam Qadir is on the other side of the Jumna with his army. There is acute scarcity of grain in his camp which is now surrounded by the Marathas. (*OR* 501 ; *TR* 28, p 271 , no 511 ; *AR* 4, p 495).

¹ Dubois, in the vol. of translations.

1788

Oct. 26 **798.** *Paper of intelligence from Kabul despatched on 15 Zul-hijja (14 September 1788).* Timur Shah is still at Kabul. His son Humayun Shah¹, who had come from Kandahar insisted one day on seeing his father when the latter was in the female apartments. The guards would not let him in and a violent altercation took place. When the guards searched his clothes a knife fell from his vest. When the King (Timur Shah) heard this he was much alarmed and ordered Humayun to be confined. Abdul Latif Khan and other *sardars* who had been sent with 40,000 horse against Murad Shah² were not able to cope successfully with him. The King then resolved personally to march against Murad Shah and sent off his equipage to a distance of 7 *kos* from Kabul when news arrived that fighting had broken out in Murad Shah's camp among his own commanders. Murad Shah's son was slain. Thereupon Murad Shah withdrew to Kundur³ a place in his own jurisdiction. It is also reported that Murad Shah has been killed but the news lacks confirmation. Timur Shah wishes to go to Peshawar⁴. There is great scarcity in Kabul. Grain is selling at 7 seers per rupee. (*OR* 502 ; *TR* 28, p 272, no 512 ; *AR* 4, p 504).

Oct. 31 **799.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. To the same effect as no 724 above. (*CI* 20, pp 158-60, no 152 ; *AR* 4, p 554).

Oct. 31 **800.** To Raja Tej Chand of Burdwan. Has received his letter. Assures him of his patronage so long as he attends to the prosperity of his zamindari and the regular

¹ Humayun Shah was the eldest son of Timur Shah. He was the Governor of Kandahar during the lifetime of his father. On the latter's death the nobles supported Shah Zaman, the half-brother of Humayun Shah. After an unsuccessful attempt to seize the throne Humayun fled to Leiah where he was captured and blinded by the order of Shah Zaman in 1794.

² Probably Shah Murad Bey, King of Bukhara who was making encroachments on the Durrani dominions at this time.

³ Cundeesh, according to the vol. of translations.

⁴ Capital of the North West Frontier Province, and headquarters of the district and *tahsil* of the same name. It is situated 13½ miles from Jamrud fort which is near the entrance of the Khyber Pass. Its position makes it important as an *entrepot* for Central Asia.

1788

payment of the Government revenue. (*CI* 20, p 265, no 276 ; *AR* 4, p 528, no 254).

Oct. ...¹. 801. Addresses in favour of Mr Hastings.

1. From Maharaja Sheo Chand, Raja of Nadia. Received 4 October 1788.

2. From the Brahmins and Pandits of Nadia and Santipur² bearing 288 signatures. Received 4 October 1788.

3. From the zamindars, *chaudhris* and talukdars of *pargana* Muhammad Aminpur and of other *mahals* in Nadia District, Bengal, bearing 67 seals and signatures. Received 4 October 1788.

4. From the *ganungos*, zamindars, *chaudhris* and talukdars of Bhagalpur District bearing 42 seals and signatures. Received 2 October 1788.

5. From the inhabitants of Bhagalpur and Akbarnagar³ bearing 44 signatures. Received 2 October 1788.

6. From the zamindars, *chaudhris* and talukdars of Akbarnagar District, Bengal, bearing 59 seals and signatures. Received 2 October 1788.

7. From the inhabitants of the hills in Jungle Terai in the *chaklas* of Rajmahal and Bhagalpur, bearing 47 signatures. Received 2 October 1788. (*TR* 28, pp 281-2, no 520).

Nov. 1. 802. From the minister of the King of Pegu. Says that last year a vessel was despatched (to Calcutta) with merchandise and with money to procure a chariot for the King of Pegu and to purchase military stores. A certain

¹ The addresses were received in the Persian Office on the 2nd and 4th October 1788 and on the 4th of November following, were forwarded to the Secretary to the Government.

² A trading town in Nadia District, Bengal.

³ Old name of Rajmahal.

1788

firm¹ undertook to construct the chariot. If the work of the construction is in progress, the cost of the chariot as well as that of a couple of horses to draw it will be sent. Requests that his lordship will see that the chariot is transported by some vessel to Pegu, in return for which services of a similar nature will be rendered to the Company.

P.S.—A man must accompany the chariot in order to take care of it. Intimation of the cost should also be given so that it may be paid. (*TR* 28, pp 273-4, no 513; *AR* 4, p 516).

Nov. 1. **803.** From Khagendra Narayan Nazir Deo. Says that he has already informed the Governor-General about his wretched condition through Messrs Mercer and Chauvet who were deputed to investigate into his claims and restore his rights. Later a *parwana* was received from his lordship assuring the writer that whatever might be proved to be his hereditary rights and perquisites would be restored to him. Says that the right of nominating the Raja of Cooch Behar belongs to him and that he inherits a share in the *tarafdari*² of (Cooch) Behar and Boda³, and the proofs of these have been submitted to the gentlemen. Will inform his lordship of what transpires after the investigation. It was the writer who placed Cooch Behar under the protection of the Company in the hope that he would live in peace and happiness. Depends solely upon the protection of the Company and his lordship and hopes that he will be restored to his inheritance. His *vakil*, Srichand Ghosh, will represent further particulars to his lordship. Dated 27 *Bhadon* 279 (9 September 1788). (*TR* 28, pp 274-5, no 514; *AR* 4, p 515).

Nov. 2. **804.** From Muhammad Riza Khan. Says that some time ago he requested his lordship to issue an order for the payment of the arrears, amounting to Rs. 31,225 which is due to him on account of his allowance during the time

¹ Name is not given.

² H. the office of a *tarafdar* who was an officer of government in charge of a *taraf* (a tract of country, a sub-division of a *pargana* including several villages) collecting the revenues and exercising chief revenue and police authority in his district.

³ A village and thana in Rangpur District.

1788

of Mr Pott. Is now in great want and requests that an order may be issued for the payment, of the money due to him. (*TR* 28, p 276, no 515 ; *AR* 4, p 509).

Nov. 2. 805. From Muhammad Riza Khan. Sends a present of plantains. (*TR* 28, p 276, no 516 ; *AR* 4, p 509).

Nov. 2 806. From the Nizam. Capt. Kennaway has delivered to him his lordship's letter notifying his intention to discharge the balances due to the writer and demanding the cession of Guntur *sarkar*. Says that as the Company's Government is always strict in the due observance of the articles of treaties and engagements and the maintenance of friendship the writer has given up Guntur without waiting for the settlement of accounts and has accordingly directed Najmul-Mulk to hand over the charge of the *sarkar* to the Company's officers. Hopes that this will remove his lordship's suspicion of a breach of treaty on his part. Capt. Kennaway has fully declared his own authority and power to discharge his (the Nizam's) demands and to adjust his affairs with the Company. At the same time he has also pointed out his limitations. So the conclusion of this business is deferred. Will, therefore, select a trustworthy agent and depute him to represent matters to his lordship personally. Hopes that the intimate friendship that exists between him and the Company will ever flourish. (*TR* 28, pp 276-8, no 517 ; *AR* 4, p 515).

Nov. 2. 807. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Is highly honoured to receive his lordship's letter in answer to his five *arzis*. Says that Capt. Kennaway delivered his lordship's letter respecting the cession of Guntur on 8 *Zul-hijja* (29 September) to Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. After much discussion and an attempt to postpone the surrender of Guntur until the arrival of an answer from Europe and the adjustment of arrears, the Nawab at last issued an order to Najmul-Mulk to give up the *sarkar*. The speedy accomplishment of this object may be ascribed to his lordship's prudent conduct in ordering some troops to be in readiness on the

1788

frontier to take possession of the said *sarkar* at the expiry of 14 days. Capt. Kennaway, too, carried out this business in an exceedingly polite and cautious manner giving no cause of irritation to the Nawab. The Nawab then sent a few questions in writing respecting the arrears due to him on account of his *peshkash* to which the Captain gave a comprehensive reply. He has decided to depute a confidential person to his lordship to make the final settlement of the arrears due to him.

Tipu Sultan is at Seringapatam and it is reported that after *Muharram* he will march to seize the country lying on the banks of the Krishna river. Some of his people have arrived at Cumbum¹. (*TR* 28, pp 278-9, no 518 ; *AR* 4, p 513).

Nov. 3. **808.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Is greatly pleased to receive his lordship's letter in reply to his own. Has learnt from the letter that his lordship has been pleased to direct the Board of Revenue to restore the *tan-khwah* of the boatmen, tailors, builders, etc. attached to the *Nizamat* of Murshidabad and Dacca. Thanks his lordship for this favour. (*TR* 28, pp 280-1, no 519 ; *AR* 4, p 510).

Nov. 5. **809.** From the Raja of Dinajpur. Congratulates the Governor-General on the occasion of *Dasahra* festival and sends a *nazr* of 2 gold mohurs and 7 rupees. (*TR* 28, p 282, no 521 ; *AR* 4, p 501).

Nov. 5. **810.** From the *Diwan* of the Raja of Dinajpur. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TR* 28, pp 282-3, no 522 ; *AR* 4, p 501).

Nov. 5. **811.** From the widow of Bahadur Zaman Khan, Zamindar of Birbhum. Informs his lordship that her husband (Bahadur Zaman Khan) died on 15 *Asin* (28 September),

¹ Town in Kurnool District, Madras. Khumun, according to the vol. of translations.

1788

of Mr Pott. Is now in great want and requests that an order may be issued for the payment, of the money due to him. (*TR* 28, p 276, no 515 ; *AR* 4, p 509).

Nov. 2. **805.** From Muhammad Riza Khan. Sends a present of plantains. (*TR* 28, p 276, no 516 ; *AR* 4, p 509).

Nov. 2 **806.** From the Nizam. Capt. Kennaway has delivered to him his lordship's letter notifying his intention to discharge the balances due to the writer and demanding the cession of Guntur *sarkar*. Says that as the Company's Government is always strict in the due observance of the articles of treaties and engagements and the maintenance of friendship the writer has given up Guntur without waiting for the settlement of accounts and has accordingly directed Najmul-Mulk to hand over the charge of the *sarkar* to the Company's officers. Hopes that this will remove his lordship's suspicion of a breach of treaty on his part. Capt. Kennaway has fully declared his own authority and power to discharge his (the Nizam's) demands and to adjust his affairs with the Company. At the same time he has also pointed out his limitations. So the conclusion of this business is deferred. Will, therefore, select a trustworthy agent and depute him to represent matters to his lordship personally. Hopes that the intimate friendship that exists between him and the Company will ever flourish. (*TR* 28, pp 276-8, no 517 ; *AR* 4, p 515).

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1788

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Nov. 5. **811.** From the widow of Bahadur Zaman Khan, Zamindar of Birbhum. Informs his lordship that her husband (Bahadur Zaman Khan) died on 15 *Asin* (28 September),

¹ Town in Kurnool District, Madras. Khumun, according to the vol. of translations.

1788

leaving behind 7 sons and 7 daughters and a large family. Seeks his lordship's favour and protection. (*TR* 28, p 283, no 523 ; *AR* 4, p 499).

Nov. 5. **812.** From Iman Khan, son of the late Bahadur Zaman Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TR* 28, p 283, no 524 ; *AR* 4, p 505).

Nov. 5. **813.** From Ghazanfar Ali¹. Says that at the time of his death his uncle, Asaduz-Zaman Khan, bequeathed his zamindari to his wife and Bahadur Zaman Khan and the writer had affixed their seals to the will at Murshidabad. Nevertheless the Supreme Council thought it proper to place Bahadur Zaman Khan in charge of the zamindari, though he had no claim to it. Later, on a complaint from the widow of Asaduz-Zaman Khan an enquiry was held. The writer, too, transmitted a petition to the Council, but no heed was paid to it. Now that Bahadur Zaman Khan is dead the writer has been thrown into confinement. Seeks permission of his lordship to appear before the presence and represent the particulars of his situation. (*TR* 28, pp 283-4, no 525 ; *AR* 4, p 503).

Nov. 5. **814.** To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Has received through Gokul Chand Chaube his letter intimating that he has left for Calcutta in order to see the Governor-General. Is anxiously awaiting the hour of his arrival. (*CI* 20, p 268, no 281 ; *AR* 4, p 550, no 255).

Nov. 8. **815.** From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has transmitted several letters to his lordship through his *vakil*, Lala Moti Lal. Has now learnt that the Lala has taken leave of his lordship in order to attend a marriage ceremony. Has therefore deputed Raushan Ray, who enjoys his confidence in his place. Assures the Governor-General of his constant fidelity and sincere attachment to him and requests him not to give attention to the representations of evil-minded

¹ He was the son of Amaduz-Zaman Khan, brother of Asaduz-Zaman Khan.

1788

persons. Hopes to be honoured with frequent letters. (TR 20, pp 284-5, no 526 ; AR 4, p 502).

- Nov. 10. 816. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter in answer to her *shuqqa*. Says that Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah has ever misguided her son, Mirza Muzaffar Bakht, and consequently alienated him from her. Then he left her service in order to promote dissensions. During all this trouble she received every help from Mr Duncan who has always been attentive to her commands. As she and her son, Mu'azzam Shah, known as Mirza Khurram, have no other support than that of his lordship she desires that she may be permitted to stay near him in Calcutta so that she may pass the rest of her life in peace and thus frustrate the designs of her enemies. Requests that his lordship will reflect on the ungrateful and mischievous conduct of Mukarramud-Daulah and others and adopt such measures as seem fit to him. (TR 28, pp 285-6, no 527 ; AR 4, p 506).
- Nov. 12. 817. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Complimentary. (TR 28, p 287, no 528 ; AR 4, p 510).
- Nov. 12. 818. From Munni Begam. Enquires after the health of his lordship and sends a present of 1000 mangoes through Nasir Muhammad Khan. (TR 28, p 287, no 529 ; AR 4, p 511).
- Nov. 12. 819. From the Raja of Burdwan. Has sent several *arzis* to his lordship respecting the construction of roads in the town of Burdwan which will offer great facilities to the ryots, *beoparis* and merchants. Says that roads in some parts of the town are ready but without any financial aid from the Government the work cannot be completed. The best season for constructing roads is from *Katik* to *Baisakh*. During the rains the work will be impossible to continue. Hopes that his lordship will issue an order for the completion of the work. (TR 28, p 288, no 530 ; AR 4, p 497).
- Nov. 12. 820. From the Raja of Burdwan. Says that in conformity with his lordship's orders, he is exerting himself in

preparing the accounts of *baze-zamin*. The delay is due to the fact that the old accounts prepared by Mr Johnson were not delivered to him. So he is now compiling them anew. The accounts of the two *parganas*, Burdwan and Bagda¹, are now ready while those of the others are being prepared. Nevertheless Mr Brooke demands from the Raja a fine of Rs 5,000 and has appointed a *muhassil* of 10 peons over him. Such fines have never been imposed on him. Requests therefore that his lordship will ask Mr Brooke to desist from offering such obstructions to the business of the zamindari and direct him not to interfere in the matter of accounts or revenue till the arrival of Mr Mercer in order to enable the Raja to prepare the accounts and pay the revenue with ease of mind. (*TR* 28, pp 288-9, no 531 ; *AR* 4, p 497).

- Nov. 12. 821. To Saiyid Ali Khan, Nawab of Dacca. To the same effect as no 720 above. (*CI* 20, pp 160-2, no 153; *AR* 4, p 530, no 258).
- Nov. 12. 822. To Diler Himmat Khan, Nawab of Farrukhabad. Acknowledges the receipt of his friendly letter. Assures the Khan that so long as he continues to perform his engagements with the Nawab Vazir he may count upon the friendship and assistance of the Company. (*CI* 20, pp 162-4, no 155 ; *AR* 4, p 533, no 256).
- Nov. 12. 823. To Nawab Khiradmand Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, pp 165-5, no 155 ; *AR* 4, p 536, no 257).
- Nov. 12. 824. To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 269, no 283 ; *AR* 4, p 423, no 259).
- Nov. 12. 825. To Maharaja Udwant Chand. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 270, no 284).
- Nov. 12. 826. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges with thanks the receipt of his letter accompanying the

¹ *Pargana* in Manbhum District, Bengal.

present of plantains. (*CI* 20, p 270, no 285 ; *AR* 4, p 542, no 261).

Nov. 12. 827. To Raja Tej Chand of Burdwan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 271, no 286).

Nov. 13. 828. To Raghuji Bhonsla. Complimentary. (*CI* 20, pp 165-6, no 156 ; *AR* 4, p 548, no 263).

Nov. 14. 829. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Is glad to receive his lordship's letter asking him to abolish all his saltpetre factories, which have been the source of dispute between the zamindars and the writer's servants and to inform the Resident at his *darbar*¹ of the quantity of saltpetre required annually for his use, which will be supplied to him at the Company's price as entered in the engagement with the contractors, and referring him to Mr Speke for further particulars. Says in reply that in conformity with his lordship's desires, he has ordered Mr Speke to abolish all the saltpetre factories belonging to the *Nizam*.

The Purnea saltpetre works stand on a different footing. Half of the total quantity manufactured there was appropriated for the Company and the other half was sent to the Nawab for the use of his family. This practice continued till 1787. This year (1788) when he wrote to Mr Wilkinson, the Superintendent of Purnea saltpetre factory, for his share he replied that before he received the Nawab's letter he had despatched the entire output to Calcutta in compliance with an order from the Council. Requests that his lordship will order that his share of the saltpetre of Purnea may be sent to him according to the established practice. (*TR* 28, pp 290-2, no 532 ; *AR* 4, p 510).

Nov. 19. 830. From Babu Manohar Das. Says that at the time of his father's (Gopal Das Sahu's) death he was at Calcutta and they (certain members of his family) took possession of the House at Benares. They also sent their *gumash*¹tas to

¹ P. court; hall of audience ; holding of a court, a levee ; royal audience.

the different branches. Their pretension that his father had divided the Houses among them is not valid, as they did not mention it before his lordship at Benares, nor did they ever disclose it to the writer or his son who was also there. His father had written to him before his death that nothing would be done in the affairs of the family during the writer's absence from Benares. One branch at Calcutta was left in his hand. But when the writer saw that his lordship was not inclined to interfere in his domestic affairs and that their *gumashla*, though told to wait till he was introduced to his lordship was exceedingly importunate he relinquished that branch too to avoid any altercation with him. Is sincerely desirous of concord agreeably to his lordship's wishes provided that the business should be conducted as during his father's lifetime and that his bills be accepted as heretofore. The writer on his part is willing to co-operate with them and will be happy to carry on the business of the Government in collaboration with them. If they do not agree to work jointly with him, the writer is prepared to carry on the business of the Government through some established Houses of his own and by constituting some more where necessary. This domestic quarrel is sapping the confidence of the people. Requests his lordship therefore to patronise his House as usual and to treat him with the same consideration as was shown to his father. Further particulars relating to the business of his House will be represented later. (*TR* 28, pp 292-4, no 533 ; *AR* 4, p 512).

Nov. 19. 831. From Khan Jahan Khan. Says that he had a small piece of waste land on the banks of the Hooghly. Some years ago Mr Motte¹ asked the writer to lend him this land for his use and his request was complied with. It was agreed that he should return the land whenever the writer

¹ Thomas Motte was the Postmaster of Benares till the year 1774. In 1779 he was appointed Superintendent of Police, Calcutta, which post he held till 1797.—I. R. D. *Public Press List*.

should require it. When Mr Motte sold his house to Mr Barton,¹ the latter was told that a piece of land belonging to the writer was annexed to it. Later, Mr Barton was dismissed from the Company's service and the house was sold to Mr Holmes² for Rs 20,000. The writer, in order to prevent his land from being sold with the house, wrote a letter to Mr Motte claiming its restoration. Thereupon Mr Motte addressed a letter to Mr Barton on the subject who in his turn wrote to Mr Holmes, but the last named gentleman paid no heed to it nor did he give up the land. Requests his lordship to hold an enquiry into the matter and order Mr Holmes to restore the land to its rightful owner. (*TR* 28, pp 294-5, no 534; *AR* 4, p 507).

Nov. 19. 832. From Babu Ausan Singh. Complimentary, sending a *nazr* on the occasion of *Dasahra*. (*TR* 28, p. 295, no 535 ; *AR* 4, p 516).

Nov. 19. 833. Intelligence³ from Hyderabad (Deccan). The *mutasaddis* and officers of (the Nizam's) Government make a demand upon (Najmul-Mulk) Saif Jang of 24 lakhs of rupees according to the *Diwani* accounts. When Saif Jang arrived from Guntur he represented that he had paid in advance from the taluk the sum of 5 lakhs of rupees and upon a fair statement of accounts there would not be a single *dam* due from him. The *mutasaddis* according to the orders of Mushirul-Mulk Azamul-Umara demanded the

¹ William Barton was the clerk to the Committee of Accounts till the year 1763. He was the member of the Council at Chittagong from about 1770 to April 1772, when he was appointed Resident at Lakshmipur and Collector of Tippera. Subsequently he was the Resident at Burdwan and President of the Board of Trade. In 1787 he was dismissed from the Company's service. He then fled to Serampore and thence to Copenhagen, where he died after living a few miserable years. I. R. D.—*Public Press List*; *Bengal Past & Present*, vol. XXV, p 147 ; Hickey: *Memoirs*, vol. III, p. 309.

² Thomas Holmes was the Collector of Twenty-four Parganas from about the year 1771 to 1786. In 1787 he was appointed Collector of Hooghly which post he held till 1789.—I. R. D. *Public Press List*.

³ Enclosure in a letter from Capt. Kennaway.

1788

payment of the *tankhwahs* of sepoy's belonging to the *sair*¹. Saif Jang replied that if the government would repay the 5 lakhs of rupees which he had paid in advance he would cause the *tankhwahs* of the sepoy's to be paid. Mushirul-Mulk further charged Saif Jang with having promised large sums of money to the *Jamadars* of the *sair* for taking his life. Saif Jang refuted the charge and said that some one had fabricated it from motives of malevolence. It is not known where the dispute will end.

Mir Abul Qasim² will probably leave for Calcutta in about 13 days. Mushirul-Mulk wishes to enlist the English troops, who are with Capt. Kennaway, in the service of the Nizam's Government so that he may be able to settle all the affairs, but his enemies oppose his plan. It is probable that he may see the Nizam in this connection and persuade him to ask for the services of the English troops.

It is learnt from the Delhi newspapers that Ghulam Qadir Khan has shut himself up in the fort of Delhi and seldom goes out to town. The Maratha troops under

¹ A variable impost, distinct from land rent or revenue, consisting of customs, tolls, licences, duties on merchandise and other articles of personal moveable property; as well as mixed duties and taxes on houses, shops, *bazzars*, etc.

² Also known as Mir Alam, was employed by Nawab Nizam Ali Khan on diplomatic service. In 1789 he went to Calcutta to negotiate with Lord Cornwallis on the subjects of the arrears of *peshkash* and the interpretation of the treaty of 1768 between the Company and the Nizam. Afterwards he accompanied the Nizam's army to Seringapatam where he concluded the negotiations for peace on the part of his own government. Later he led the abortive embassy to Poona in 1794. In 1795 he commanded the forces sent against Ali Jah, son of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan, and took the prince prisoner at Bidar. At the instance of Azamul-Umara, Mir Abul Qasim was appointed Minister for English Affairs and in that capacity negotiated with Capt. Kirkpatrick the treaty of 1798 which resulted in the dismissal of the French force at Hyderabad and was immediately followed by the successful war against Tipu Sultan. He commanded the Nizam's army during the war against Tipu Sultan. On his return to Hyderabad after the fall of Seringapatam, he was received with great distinction but due to the jealousy of Azamul-Umara, he was banished from the Nizam's court in 1800. In May 1804, on the death of Azamul-Umara, he was appointed Prime Minister of the Nizam and he held this office until his death in 1808 in the 56th year of his age.—I.R.D : *Foreign Miscellaneous Records*, vol. 129.

1788

Sindhia and Rana Khan have surrounded the Red Fort¹ and cut off its supplies. Some of the Sindhia's troops have gone towards Patthargarh². The disorder and confusion in the kingdom and the ruin of the principal families are beyond description. (*TR* 28, pp 295-7, no 536 ; *AR* 4, p 504).

Nov. 19. 834. From the Raja of Jaipur. Is delighted to receive his lordship's friendly letter. Has already communicated the particulars of his departure from the court of His Majesty to quell the commotion³ raised by the enemies in the country of Jodhpur⁴ in response to the invitation of Maharaja Bijai Singh. Will shortly have an interview with the Maharaja in order to discuss several important matters of the state and adopt measures to check the growing mischief caused by the enemies. The result of the interview will be communicated later. Refers him to Rai Ram Singh for further particulars. Hopes to be favoured with an early reply. (*TR* 28, pp 297-8, no 537 ; *AR* 4, p 505).

Nov. 19. 835. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Says that Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah and several other wicked people ever misguided her sons and succeeded in alienating first Mirza Shigufta Bakht and then Mirza Muzaffar Bakht from her. The latter is at present living with the aforesaid Nawab who has ruined her family. The children are encouraged to desert their parents when they are given to understand that they will receive money for their expenses separately. Trusts that his lordship will disapprove the mischievous and ruinous conduct of the wicked people and adopt such measures as seem fit to him. She and her son, Mu'azzam Shah *alias* Mirza Khurram Bakht, have no other support than his lordship.

¹ The fort of the city of Delhi built by Emperor Shahjahan, so called because it was constructed of red sandstone.

² A stone fort built by Najibud-Daulah, one mile east of his capital Najibabad.

³ *Vide* no 795 above.

⁴ State in Rajputana.

Says that a sum of Rs 35,000 was fixed as the *peshkash* (for Jahandar Shah) which was later reduced to Rs 25,000 a month. After his death the amount was fixed at Rs 17,000. When Mirza Shigufta Bakht deserted her, his lordship gave him an allowance of Rs 5,000 out of her *peshkash* leaving only Rs 12,000 for herself. Now that Mirza Muzaffar Bakht has also left her through the vile seduction of Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah, who keeps him in his house in the hope that something will be allotted separately for his expenses, she has this to say that she cannot spare more than one or two thousand rupees at the most for his maintenance. She is already experiencing great difficulties in meeting her own expenses.

Her enemies have thrown her family into a strange situation of distress. Mirza Shigufta Bakht has adopted Jahanabadi Begam as his mother with whose particulars his lordship is well acquainted. Mirza Muzaffar Bakht is the son of a slave girl, who was an attendant to her grandmother and whom her late husband had taken into his harem. She still lives at Delhi, for the late Prince did not bring her with him. Only Bibi Zeban, who was a slave girl of Muhammadi Begam, daughter of His Majesty, came with the Prince. In this manner the late Prince had several slave girls in his harem.

Further says that in her distress she received every help from Mr Duncan who has at all times been attentive to her. This gentleman is now the only source of comfort to her at a place where she is surrounded by enemies. He has been so obedient and has shown so much attachment to her that the full particulars will form a lengthy narrative. As she and her son, Mirza Khurram Bakht, have no other support than his lordship, she desires that they may be permitted to stay near him either at Rajmahal or at Murshidabad, or at Calcutta, or at any other place that may seem fit to his lordship. (*TR* 28, pp 298-302, no 538 ; *AR* 4, p 506).

1788

Nov. 20.

836. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has deputed Mian Ilahi Bakhsh, one of the eunuchs of the palace, with Lala Makkhan Lal to his lordship's presence and has sent through them a small quantity of *attar* and a shawl as presents. Desires to send to his lordship a coach with four horses, which her late husband (Prince Jahandar Shah) was very fond of and kept exclusively for his own use. If his lordship condescends to accept it, the coach will be sent on to him.

It is a custom in the East that splendid mausoleums are built on the remains of kings and princes as monuments. Desires him to issue orders for the construction of magnificent tomb over her husband's grave and to make an endowment of a few villages for its maintenance. (The rest of the letter is to the same effect as the foregoing). (*TR* 28, pp 302-7, no 539 ; *AR* 4, p 506).

Nov. 20.

837. To Muhammad Ali Khan, Nawab of Arcot. Offers condolence on the death of his son, Amirul-Umara Muhammad Munavvar Khan. (*CI* 20, pp 166-8, no 157 ; *AR* 4, p 523, no 264).

Nov. 21.

838. From Babbu Begam. Says that the wedding of the two daughters of her son, Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah, has been celebrated in a proper manner. The Nawab had to contract loans to meet the necessary expenses. The marriage of his third daughter has been arranged with the younger brother of Nawab Nusrat Jang (Saiyid Ali Khan of Dacca). In view of the friendly relations which subsist between her son and his lordship the news was conveyed to the latter some time ago. As the marriage will be celebrated shortly she is informing his lordship again. Mir Kamalud-Din will represent several particulars to him and she hopes that his lordship will pay due regard to them. (*TR* 28, pp 307-8, no 540 ; *AR* 4, p 498).

Nov. 21.

839. To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Has received his letter. Is pleased to learn that the Nawab, in compliance with the terms of the treaty, has made over the district of Guntur

1788

to the Company. Promises to fulfil his part of the engagement by immediately paying up the arrears of the *peshkash* in full and by discharging the *qists* regularly in future. Is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Nawab's *vakil*. (CI 20, pp 168-9, no 158 ; AR 4, p 545, no 265).

Nov. 21. 840. To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his letter. Is satisfied to learn that he rendered all possible help to Capt. Kennaway during his recent negotiations with Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Appreciates his devotion to duty at Hyderabad in spite of his indifferent health. Hopes that he will continue to communicate the news of 'that' quarter as usual. (CI 20, p 170, no 159 ; AR 4, p 541, no 266).

Nov. 22. 841. *Dastak* granted to the dependants of Munshi Sukh Lal¹ who are proceeding from Allahabad to Calcutta. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans* and *chaukidars* are directed not to molest them on the way for tolls and duties. (CI 20, p 271, no 287).

Nov. 24. 842. From the Raja of Benares. Says that the revenues for 1195 *Fasli* (1787-8 A. D.) have been paid and that in compliance with the orders of his lordship Mr Duncan has exempted him from paying the arrears. May the Almighty long maintain his lordship's benevolent protection over him. Hopes that under his lordship's kind patronage and by Mr Duncan's assistance his country will ever flourish. (TR 28, p 308, no 541 ; AR 4, p 497).

Nov. 24. 843. From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Intends to see the Governor-General on Thursday, 28 *Safar* (27 November 1788 A.D.) and seeks his lordship's permission. (TR 28, pp 308-9, no 542 ; AR 4, p 518).

Nov. 24. 844. To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Is pleased to learn that the Nawab intends paying him a visit on Thursday 27 November. (CI 20, p 171, no 160 ; AR 4, p 550, no 267).

¹ *Vakil* of Lala Champat Ray, *Amin* and Collector of Customs at Benares.

1788

to the Company. Promises to fulfil his part of the engagement by immediately paying up the arrears of the *peshkash* in full and by discharging the *gists* regularly in future. Is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Nawab's *vakil*. (CI 20, pp 168-9, no 158 ; AR 4, p 545, no 265).

- Nov. 21. **840.** To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his letter. Is satisfied to learn that he rendered all possible help to Capt. Kennaway during his recent negotiations with Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Appreciates his devotion to duty at Hyderabad in spite of his indifferent health. Hopes that he will continue to communicate the news of 'that' quarter as usual. (CI 20, p 170, no 159 ; AR 4, p 541, no 266).
- Nov. 22. **841.** *Dastak* granted to the dependants of Munshi Sukh Lal¹ who are proceeding from Allahabad to Calcutta. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans* and *chaukidars* are directed not to molest them on the way for tolls and duties. (CI 20, p 271, no 287).
- Nov. 24. **842.** From the Raja of Benares. Says that the revenues for 1195 *Fasli* (1787-8 A. D.) have been paid and that in compliance with the orders of his lordship Mr Duncan has exempted him from paying the arrears. May the Almighty long maintain his lordship's benevolent protection over him. Hopes that under his lordship's kind patronage and by Mr Duncan's assistance his country will ever flourish. (TR 28, p 308, no 541 ; AR 4, p 497).
- Nov. 24. **843.** From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Intends to see the Governor-General on Thursday, 28 *Safar* (27 November 1788 A.D.) and seeks his lordship's permission. (TR 28, pp 308-9, no 542 ; AR 4, p 518).
- Nov. 24. **844.** To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Is pleased to learn that the Nawab intends paying him a visit on Thursday 27 November. (CI 20, p 171, no 160 ; AR 4, p 550, no 267).

¹ *Vakil* of Lala Champat Ray, *Amin* and Collector of Customs at Benares.

1788

Nov. 25. 845. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is delighted to receive his lordship's friendly letter. Says that ever since he connected himself with the Company, he severed his relations with all the other chiefs. Is employed at all times in praying for the prosperity of the Governor-General and the Company. Is apprehensive of his own situation since Ghulam Qadir Khan committed an improper act on the House of Timur. As Ghulam Qadir bears a mortal abhorrence towards him, the writer is praying at all times that he may speedily meet with the punishment due to his conduct. As his servants are in fact the servants of the Company they cannot think of going to Ghulam Qadir. Assures him of his firm loyalty and says that he with his army is ready to join the Company's troops when they will march to punish him. Raushan Ray, his *vakil*, has left for Calcutta and will shortly reach there. Commends him to his lordship's favour.

P.S.—Says that he has severed his connection with all the other chiefs and considers the friends of the Company as his friends and their enemies as his enemies. Is anxious to punish Ghulam Qadir with the assistance of the Company's troops. Being the follower of Prophet Muhammad, he is bound to abide by the treaties and engagements. It is not possible that any deviation shall take place in his loyalty to the Company and his lordship during his lifetime. His enemies are never remiss in making false representations and in their attempt to alienate his lordship's sympathy from the writer. Their sole object is lucre.

The income of his state is not sufficient to maintain his family and the large establishment of troops. This year due to drought the yield of the autumn harvest is scarcely one fourth of the corresponding harvest of the preceding years. Even the spring crops do not offer a bright prospect as the seeds have not yet been sown for want of rains. (*TR* 28, pp 309-11, no 543 ; *AR* 4, p 502).

Nov. 25. 846. *Dastaks*.—These are drafts in which the blanks have not been filled up. (*CI* 20, p 272, nos 288-9.)

1788

- Nov. 26.* **847.** From Dil Diler Khan. Requests his lordship to grant leave to Munshi Vir Bhan, who is in attendance on him but is not keeping good health. Further the writer also wants to consult him about some of his affairs. Muhammad Ibrahim, who is also there, will work in his place. Hopes to be favoured with frequent letters. (*TR 28, pp 311-12, no 544 ; AR 4, p 501*).
- Nov. 26.* **848.** From Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Has received his lordship's letter intimating that no reduction has been made in her allowance. Accordingly Mr Speke has paid her allowance from *Katik* 1194 B. S. (1787 A.D.) to *Sawan* 1195 B. S. (1788 A. D.) without any deduction. Prays for the prosperity of the Governor-General. (*TR 28, p 312, no 545 ; AR 4, p 516*).
- Nov. 26.* **849.** From Khadim Ali Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TR 28, p 312, no 546 ; AR 4, p 508*).
- Nov. 26.* **850.** From Bhawani Das Sahu. Says that a branch of his House has been established at Calcutta under the management of Lala Khush-Hal Chand. The Lala is experienced in the transaction of Government business and enjoys the writer's confidence. Commends him to his lordship's favour and hopes that he will be honoured with the commands of his lordship relating to Government business. (*TR 28, pp 312-13, no 547 ; AR 4, p 499*).
- Nov. 26.* **851.** From Lala Khush-Hal Chand. Has learnt from Mr Cherry that some one had informed his lordship that the bazar shroffs had drawn up an address to the Governor-General and wanted the writer to put his signature thereto but he declined to do so, from which it was evident that the writer was not in favour of the abolition of the *batta* on gold mohurs. His lordship had thereupon remarked that it mattered little if the writer did not put his signature, for the order had already been issued abolishing the *batta* on gold mohurs and rupees and that if the writer did not submit to that order no favour would be shown to him. Says in reply that the fact is this.

1788

Nimu Mallik ¹ sent for all the holders of *kutis*² and desired them to sign their names (on the address). The latter thought that the bazar shroffs notwithstanding their engagement would continue to give and take *batta*. They could not be relied upon because they do not have much regard for their reputation. But the holders of *kutis* are men of character. If they signed the paper they would reduce themselves to the same footing as them (the shroffs) and later a dispute would arise. The holders of *kutis* therefore determined to write their address separately. They accordingly prepared their own draft and sent it to Nimu Mallik who kept it one day with him. Meanwhile the order abolishing the *batta* was issued. Nimu Mallik then returned the draft to him. About two months have elapsed since his arrival at Calcutta but the writer never gave nor received any *batta*. Assures his lordship that he would never disobey the orders of the Government. In consideration of his services rendered to the Company he always seeks his lordship's kindness and protection. (*TR* 28, pp 313-14, no 548 ; *AR* 4, p 508).

Nov. 26. 852. From Raghuji Bhonsla. Says that Sukh Lal Sahu and Manohar Das, inhabitants of Benares, owe a sum of Rs 20,000 to Ramji Naik and Sridhar Naik³ of Nagpur, that was deposited with them by the House of Ramji Naik at Benares. Manohar Das having turned bankrupt postpones the payment of this sum. Requests his lordship to issue orders to the officers at Benares to support Ramji and to recover the amount from Sukh Lal. Refers him to Beni Ram Pandit for further particulars. (*TR* 28, pp 314-15, no 549).

¹ Nimai Charan Mallik, commonly called Nimu Mallik, was the second son of Nayan Chand Mallik of the Mallik family of Barabazar, Calcutta. He was born in 1736. He was an accomplished gentleman and was well versed in the Bengali, English and Persian languages. He inherited from his father about forty lakhs of rupees and was very generous. He died in November 1807, at the age of 71 leaving over three crores of rupees, besides landed property, taluks etc. He left two daughters and eight sons.—L. N. Ghosh : *The Modern History of the Indian Chiefs, Rajas, Zamindars, etc.*

² B. any large building, a factory, a business house or a bank.

³ Money-lender of Nagpur.

1788

Nov. 26.

853. From the Queen of Cannanore¹. Has already informed his lordship of the Nawab's (Tipu Sultan's) arrival at Calicut from Patana Ghat² and of her own march thither. His conduct towards her she now proceeds to relate. The Nawab instigated her and the king of Calistria (Kolattiri) to seize on the English settlement at Tellicherry to which she replied that it was an object within the Nawab's power to accomplish and that so far as she was concerned she never received the slightest provocation from the Company. Nevertheless when in obedience to his orders she had afforded him assistance in the siege of that place (Tellicherry) and the Company had retaliated by seizing her dominions, he failed to come to her relief from Mangalore³ so that she was greatly embarrassed. She further reminded him that after the English had restored her possessions, he demanded and obtained four lakhs of rupees from her. Later he compelled her to relinquish her conquest from the King of Calistria, whose hostile disposition he was well aware of. She added that the commercial benefits derived from the intercourse, now subsisting between her subjects and the inhabitants of the English territories, deterred her from undertaking anything which might interrupt the existing harmony. Incensed at her resolution, he ordered her to furnish two lakhs of rupees within 20 days allowing her however to retire to Calicut to raise the money. On her failure to meet his demand he carried two of her ministers with him to Patana (Seringapatam?) as hostages for the payment of the money. This was intimated to the Chief and other gentlemen at Tellicherry. Says that she is reluctant to submit to his demands as she is convinced that there never will be an end to them. Her mind therefore naturally turns to

¹ Ali Raja Bibi. For biographical note see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 19, f.n. 5.

² Probably Payenghat.

³ Seaport on the western coast of India and head-quarters of South Kanara District, Madras. Formerly, it was also called Codeal Bunder. Haidar Ali seized it in 1763 and established dockyards and an arsenal. Captured by the British and abandoned in 1768, it was again taken by them in 1781. Surrendered to Tipu Sultan after an heroic defence by Col. Campbell in 1784, it finally fell to the British in 1799.

her alliance with the Company concluded by General McLeod¹. Affirms that its conditions shall never be infringed on her part and hopes that the English will also adhere to it faithfully. Hopes that the same friendly relations as subsisted between her and his lordship's predecessor will continue with the addressee. Requests his lordship therefore to direct the Governor of Bombay to authorise the Chief at Tellicherry to offer her succour in case she is subjected to oppression once again (by Tipu). Assures him of her aid to the Company whenever it is called for. With her alliance the English may reduce the Malabar² Chiefs in the vicinity of Tellicherry to the state of tributaries with the utmost facility. (*TR* 28, pp 315-17, no 550 ; *AR* 4, p 500).

- Nov. 26. **854.** From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Says that Muhammad Akbar Khan, a servant of the royal house, received a sum of Rs 150 a month only out of his monthly allowance of Rs 500 from the time the late Prince came to reside in this country. He has a large family to maintain and is a person deserving of every sympathy. Commends him therefore to his lordship's favour and requests that his former allowance may be restored. (*TR* 28, pp 317-18, no 551; *AR* 4, p 506).
- Nov. 26. **855.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 171-2, no 161 ; *AR* 4, p 540, no 269).
- Nov. 26. **856.** To Munni Begam. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 273, no 290 ; *AR* 4, p 543, no 270).

¹ On 14 December 1783 Gen. McLeod took the fort of Cannanore by storm, captured the Queen and concluded a treaty with her on 8 January 1784 by which all her territories were restored to her and she was to pay one and a half lakhs of rupees as the expenses of war and an annual tribute of one lakh of rupees to the English. But the treaty was disavowed by the Government of Bombay.— Logan : *Collection of Malabar Treaties*.

² Malabar or 'the land of hills' is perhaps the most beautiful and certainly one of the richest and most fertile of the districts of Madras, lying on the west coast of the Presidency. Its ancient name was Kerala, which included also the district of South Kanara and the States of Cochin and Travancore. Calicut, Tellicherry, Palghat, Cannanore, Cochin, Badagara and Ponnani are the chief towns of Malabar.

1788

- Nov. 26. 857. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary reply (*CI* 20, p 273, no 291 ; *AR* 4, p 532, no 268).
- Nov. 26. 858. To Maharaja Radha Nath of Dinajpur. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 274, no 292 ; *AR* 4, p 530, no 271).
- Nov. 30. 859. To Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 275, no 293 ; *AR* 4, p 229, no 273).
- Nov. 30. 860. To Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. Acknowledges the receipt of his two letters. Says in reply that the Raja must himself bear all the expenses that may be necessary for keeping the roads of his district in a good state of repair. Asks him to be punctual in the discharge of the Government revenue. (*CI* 20, pp 172-3, no 162 ; *AR* 4, p 528, no 272).
- Dec. 3. 861. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received a letter from the rebel, Ghulam Qadir, with a *shuqqa* from Mirza Akbar Shah in the manner of the notification of accession to the throne¹. Has sent these letters in original to Mr Ives, the Company's Resident at Lucknow and encloses a copy of them for his lordship's information. He took the letters brought by the servants of that rebel and turned them out without any answer. Dated 19 *Safar* 1203 A. H. (19 November, 1788).

(1) *Mirza Akbar Shah to Nawab Faizullah Khan*. From the unbounden favour of Providence, on the 14th *Muharram* (15 October) the imperial throne was illuminated by our august accession and the sound of the kettle-drum of

¹ It appears that after his flight from the fort of Delhi Ghulam Qadir intended to exploit his captive, Prince Akbar Shah, to further his own nefarious ends. His enthronement of Bedar Bakht was a singular failure. So he may have thought of trying the son of Shah Alam. On the 12th October 1788 (according to these records) he left Delhi and on the 15th he set up Akbar Shah as King. But whatever plans for the future Ghulam Qadir may have conceived were set at naught by the pressing Maratha army which gave him no respite and pursued him from place to place till he was at last captured and put to death.

felicitations reached the ears of the inhabitants of earth and of the world above it. The dignity of the pulpit increased a thousand-fold on account of the *khutba*¹ being preached from it in our auspicious name and the face of the gold and silver coins shone brighter than the sun and the moon by the effulgence of the impression of our name on them. Now that the writer has taken the administration of affairs in his own hands and the *Vakil-i-Mutlaq Amirul-Umara Najibud-Daulah* Ghulam Abdul Qadir Ahmad Khan *Sabit Jang* and all the nobles of the empire have girded their loins in his service, the Khan is called upon to remain firm in the path of allegiance according to ancient custom.

(2) *Ghulam Qadir Khan to Nawab Faizullah Khan*. On the 14 *Muharram* His Majesty Muhammad Akbar Shah ascended the imperial throne and *khutba* was read and *sikkas* issued in his name in all parts of the world. His Majesty has addressed a *shuqqa* to the Khan who should therefore send a reply expressing his devotion and allegiance. (OR 504-5 ; TR 28, pp 318-20, no 552; AR 4, p 502).

Dec. 3. 862. From Raja Mahip Narayan Singh. Has already sent a letter to his lordship mentioning the full payment of the revenues for 1195 *Fasli* (1787-8 A.D.) and offering his thanks for the remission of the arrears. Hopes for his favour and protection. (OR 506 ; TR 28, pp 320-1, no 553 ; AR 4, p 497).

Dec. 3. 863. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has received his two letters through Mir Mazhar Ali Khan who has fully represented to her the particulars of his lordship's kindness and attention towards her family and has thereby afforded her great satisfaction and happiness. Is perfectly satisfied with the conduct of Mr Duncan whom his lordship has instructed to carry out her commands. It was

¹ A. a discourse or sermon which the preacher recites on the pulpit in the noon service of the congregational mosque on Fridays. A regular feature of this is the prayer offered for the reigning sovereign. Hence the *khutba* and *sikka* i.e. stamping the coin in the name of the sovereign, are the emblems of sovereignty among the Muhammadans.

1788

highly proper for his lordship to send back Mir Mazhar Ali Khan to her in order to reduce her expenditure. Is now deputing Mian Ilahi Bakhsh Khan, an old servant and confidant, to represent certain particulars to his lordship. Hopes he will vouchsafe a reply to each of the points submitted to him. She and her son, Mirza Khurram Bakht, rely for their happiness and comfort on his lordship. (OR 507 ; TR 28, pp 321-2, no 554 ; AR 4, p 506).

Dec. 3. 834. From Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Some time ago she had written to his lordship how certain people had appropriated to themselves her *jagirs* in *suba* Bihar and paid only a small rent to her on the plea that those were *muqarrari* lands. His lordship had then been pleased to refer her to the district officers. Says that the aforesaid *jagirs* were granted to her by the Company but the income from them is appropriated by the *muqarrari* holders who pay her a paltry sum of three or four thousand rupees annually. Desires therefore personally to go to Azimabad to arrange her affairs. Requests two letters, one to Mr Law and the other to Mr Brooke, directing those gentlemen to abolish the *muqarrari* tenures and to attend to her concerns. (OR 508 ; TR 28, pp 322-3, no 555 ; AR 4, p 516).

Dec. 3. 865. From Kunwar Daulat Singh. Having received his lordship's permission the writer set out to pay his respects to him. When he reached Murshidabad he fell ill as the climate did not agree with him. Is therefore obliged to return to Patna. He will do himself the honour of waiting upon his lordship as soon as he recovers. Professes zeal and attachment to the Company and hopes for his lordship's support. (OR 509 ; TR 28, pp 323-4, no 556 ; AR 4, p 507).

Dec. 3. 866. From Babu Bhup Narayan Singh. Says that agreeably to his lordship's orders he attends on Mr Duncan who shows him every kindness. But he has not yet been restored to his rights. Depends on his lordship's

1788

favour for the accomplishment of his object. Refers his lordship for particulars to his *vakil*, Lala Daryao Singh. (OR 510 ; TR 28, p 324, no 557 ; AR 4, p 499).

Dec. 3. 867. From Raja Basant Ram. Complimentary. (OR 511 ; TR 28, p 325, no 558 ; AR 4, p 499).

Dec. 3. 868. From Babu Rup Singh. Is honoured by the receipt of his lordship's kind letter. Hopes his zamindari will be restored to him so that he may exert himself in performing the duties of obedience. Refers him to his *vakil*, Gopal Chand Chaube, for particulars and prays that his representations may receive favourable consideration. (OR 512 ; TR 28, pp 325-6, no 559 ; AR 4, p 518).

Dec. 3. 869. To Nawab Dil Diler Khan. Says that agreeably to his request he has granted leave to the Nawab's *vakil* to go to Benares for a change of climate. (CI 20, p 275, no 294 ; AR 4, p 531, no 274).

Dec. 3. 870. To Munni Begam. Says that agreeably to her wishes he has accorded permission to her *vakil*, Nasir Muhammad Khan, to return to Murshidabad. (CI 20, p 276, no 295 ; AR 4, p 543, no 276).

Dec. 3. 871. To Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Condoles with him on the death of his sister¹. (CI 20, p 276, no 296 ; AR 4, p 535, no 277).

Dec. 3. 872. *Notification*. Notice is hereby given that from and after the 15th of the current month the coinage of gold mohurs will be suspended and no more gold bullion will be received at the Mint.

Gold Mohurs that have been coined in the Calcutta Mint will, upon application at the Mint, be recoined into smaller denomination for the convenience of individuals, without any extra expense to them, and weight will be delivered for weight. (CI 20, p 277, no 297).

¹ Son, according to the vol. of abstracts.

1788

affairs and has taken away with him Prince Mirza Muzaffar Bakht. Has directed Mr Duncan to persuade the Mirza to return to the Begam's protection. Refers her to Mr Duncan for further particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 173-6 ; no 163 ; *AR* 4, p 538, no 279).

Dec. 8. 877. To Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh. Has received his letter. Is gratified to learn that he has paid in full the Government revenue for 1195 *Fasli* (1787-8 A.D.) (*CI* 20, p 278, no 299 ; *AR* 4, p 525, no 280).

Dec. 9. 878. From Mirza Shigufta Bakht. When his father the late Prince (Jahandar Shah), first came to Lucknow from Delhi he experienced marks of service and friendship from the English and the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah). He therefore became so attached to them that he fixed on their territory for his residence and went to Delhi to fetch the Begam. When he arrived there His Majesty (Shah Alam) was graciously pleased to offer him full control over the affairs of State. But as he was impressed with the friendship and sincerity of his lordship and the Vazir and placed greater reliance on the agreement¹ made with his lordship at the time of his departure from Benares he came back with his family to this country. On the way the Marathas and others tried to win him over but he remained firm in his resolution. But scarcely had he been here two months when he died. Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah (Akbar Ali Khan) who during the lifetime of the late Prince had no voice in any of his affairs made such profuse protestations of his attachment to the family that he got complete control over all affairs. But when he found that the writer stood in the way of his disposing of the goods and effects he became his enemy and turned the Begam against him. Thus he became all in all and acted just as he pleased. The writer was mortified to see all this and resolved to go to Calcutta to obtain redress. When he opened his

¹ This refers to the Governor-General in Council's assurance to the Prince to offer him a safe asylum in the Company's territories in the event of his returning from Delhi. *Vide* letters nos. 1625 and 1758 of the *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII.

1788

mind to Mr Duncan he advised him not to take this step as he would procure the adjustment of his affairs from Calcutta in the course of a fortnight. But Mukarramud-Daulah on behalf of the Begam made such counter representations that nothing could be settled within the stipulated time. The writer became dejected and as it was the rainy season he proceeded to Lucknow instead of Calcutta, thinking that there was no difference between the Vazir and his lordship and that complete unanimity existed between them in every respect. Mr Duncan, on learning of his departure, sent Mr Grant after him to request him to return and accept an allowance of Rs 6,000 per month and take Rs 12,000 on account of his arrears. The indiscretion of youth led him to reject the offer and he refused to go back to Benares. On arrival at Lucknow he was received by the Vazir and Mr Ives with every mark of favour and friendship but, a short time after, Mr Ives informed him that he had been directed by his lordship not to pay visits to the writer as he had left the Company's territory without cause. Consequently he stopped his calls and the Vazir followed suit. Explains that the only cause of his coming to Lucknow was that he considered it as good as Calcutta in view of the close alliance between the two governments. Recalls that his late father committed him to his lordship's care at the time of his death and therefore looks up to him for a proper settlement of his affairs. Trusts that his lordship will write to Mr Ives and the Vazir whatever he may think advisable about the writer. (OR 515 ; TR 28, pp 327-31, no 562 ; AR 4, p 511.)

Dec. 10. 879. From Raja Kalyan Singh. After enumerating the services rendered to the Company by his late father Maharaja Shitab Ray, he says that in consideration of them his father was at first given an allowance of one lakh of rupees. Later the allowance was reduced to Rs 50,000 but he was given the appointment of the *Naib Suba* of Bihar. On the death of his father Mr Hastings and the Council continued to the writer the allowance, *jagirs* and

appointments held by his deceased father. They consoled him in every manner and assured him that they would always treat him and his progeny like their children. Hitherto the Governor-General and Council have consistently protected and honoured him. But now an order has been issued from the *Khalisa* Board for the sequestration of his allowance. Is astonished that such treatment is meted out to a person whose father displayed singular zeal and attachment to the Company and who himself has transacted their business with integrity and uprightness. He has now fallen on evil days due to the heavy losses sustained by him in his farms. To sequester the allowance of such a person under such circumstances is contrary to the ways of protection. The writer had hoped that after paying the Company's money he would discharge his debts to the other creditors in a few years and live on his *jagirs* and allowance thereafter. He never expected such unkindness at the hands of his lordship who is gifted with sagacity and wisdom.

During an interview at Azimabad his lordship was pleased to say that consideration would be shown to him after he had liquidated his debt to the Company. Now that his debt to the Company has been discharged he hopes to receive a kindly treatment from him. Requests him therefore to issue an order that his allowance of Rs 4,160 a month may be continued to him as before. If his allowance is stopped the receipts of his *jagirs* alone will not be sufficient to maintain him and to liquidate at the same time a debt of 4 lakhs of rupees to the *mahajans*, for he has got to support a number of children and brothers besides a host of other dependants. The sequestration of his allowance will not replenish the Company's Treasury but, on the other hand, it will ruin an illustrious old family. (OR 516; TR 28, pp 331-6, no 563 ; AR 4, p 508.)

Dec. 10. 880. From Harendra Narayan, Raja of Cooch Behar. Has already informed his lordship by repeated '*arzis*' about the particulars of his situation. Messrs Mercer and Chauvet who came here to enquire into the disputes between

the Raja and Nazir Khagendra Narayan called upon him for proofs in every matter and the writer submitted all documentary evidence and explained things verbally to them. Khagendra Narayan now denies that he is a servant of the Raja and claims to be a partner in the *raj*. But proofs have been adduced to demonstrate his subordinate position, his treachery and his ill-treatment of the Raja and his mother. Mr Mercer has now gone to his lordship with all the papers. But the writer is alarmed at the pardon extended by his lordship to the Nazir Deo. He has been guilty of rebellion and was therefore dismissed by the Raja. If he is not punished according to custom it will be difficult for the Raja and his mother to reside in 'this' country. Hopes for his lordship's favour and kindness. Further particulars will be explained verbally by the Raja's *vakil*s. (OR 517-18¹ ; TR 28, pp 336-7, no 564 ; AR 4, p 500).

Dec. 16. 881. From Rajmata Kamateshwari, mother of the Raja of Cooch Behar. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 519² ; TR 28, p 337, no 565 ; AR 4, p 500).

Dec. 10. 882. From Rajnarayan Qanungo. Says that his lordship will learn all particulars from the revenue papers of Midnapore and Jellasore which are transmitted by Mr Burrowes. Is diligently engaged in improving the affairs of the Government in his district. Several persons, it is said, are trying to make misrepresentations about him to his lordship. Hopes that justice will always be done to him. (OR 520 ; TR 28, p 338, no 556 ; AR 4, p 517).

Dec. 10. 883. *Notification*. Notice is hereby given that the Governor-General in Council will receive tenders for the delivery of any quantity of salt, manufactured in the Northern Circars or the Coast of Coromandel, not exceeding six lakhs of maunds of 82 sicca weight to the seer,

¹ OR 518 is the Persian translation of OR 517 which is in Bengali.

² This letter is in Bengali.

the contract being subject to the following conditions :—

1. The salt to be of a good marketable quality and the Controller of the salt manufacture to be empowered to reject any quantity tendered which may appear to him not to answer this description. The contractor to have the option of appealing against such rejection, within 5 days after it shall have taken place, to the Governor-General in Council who will either confirm or set aside the same within 10 days after such appeal. And any quantity of salt which may be finally rejected by the Governor-General in Council, shall be put up to public auction by the Controller and the price to be paid for the same to the contractor shall be in proportion to the price which such rejected salt shall fetch.

2. The quantity of salt contracted for to be delivered to the order of the Controller of salt manufacture, between the 1st May and the 1st October 1789, at the *golas* at Rishra¹ and Salkia², as the Controller may direct. The Controller to proceed to the inspection of such salt as may be accordingly tendered to him by the contractor at the aforesaid *golas* within 5 days after such tender shall have been made.

3. The contractor to pay a penalty of 30 per cent on the contract price of the quantity of salt not delivered within the period prescribed.

4. The salt to be paid for in certificates bearing an interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, one half of the amount contracted for to be advanced on signing the contract, one fourth on the delivery of half the quantity of salt, and the remaining fourth on the completion of the delivery of the contracted quantity.

5. Good and reliable sureties to be given for the amount of the advances and for the payment of the penalty on the quantity of salt not delivered by the stipulated period.

6. The contractor not to be subject to the payment of the penalty on any deficiency in his deliveries occasioned by

¹ Ichra, according to the vol. of copies.

² Suburb of Howrah city, Bengal.

losses at sea, provided the quantity deficient shall be proved by regular bills of lading or other valid and authentic documents to have been shipped for delivery in Bengal.

7. In order to prevent loss to the contractor on any surplus quantity which he may import with a view to making good the customary wastage during the voyage any contractor who may have a surplus quantity of salt remaining on hand, after having completed the whole of his deliveries, shall be allowed the contract price for such surplus, provided it shall not exceed 6 maunds for each hundred maunds of the whole amount of his contract. Any surplus quantity exceeding this proportion, will not be permitted to be landed.

8. The vessels on which the salt is imported shall stop at Kukrahati where they shall receive *rawanas*, within 24 hours after application being made for the same, from the *gumashta* of the Controller of Salt who will fill up the blanks of the vessel's name and the quantity of the salt laden on it, these *rawanas* serving as passport to bring up the salt to the place at which it is to be delivered. Any vessel attempting to pass Kukrahati without a *rawana* will be confiscated together with its cargo. Sealed proposals superscribed "Proposals for the delivery of salt, the produce of the Northern Circars, or the Coast of Coromandel" will be received by the Secretary to the Government on or before 13 March next. (*CI 20, pp 279-81, no 300*).

Dec. 11. 884. To Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Informs him that he has directed Mr Forster to take leave of the addressee and return to Calcutta. (*CI 20, pp 176-7, no 164 ; AR 4, p 548, no 281*).

Dec. 11. 885. To Saiyid Ali Khan, Nawab of Dacca. Has received his letter. Is pleased to hear of his desire to proceed to Murshidabad in order to celebrate the marriage of his younger brother with the daughter of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Asks the addressee to inform him after he has arrived at Murshidabad and performed the ceremony. (*CI 20, pp 177-8, no 165*).

1788

Dec. 12. 886. From the Deb Raja. Sends a present of walnuts. Says that during the time of Mr. Hardinge, Mr. Begle settled the dispute about Jalpesh and that the paper bearing his decision is with the Raja. Some wrongdoers have now complained to his lordship that he has taken forcible possession of Jalpesh whereas it has been in his possession for the last 8 or 9 years according to the decree of the said gentlemen. Two gentlemen¹ have accordingly arrived to enquire into the matter. Requests that the former order may be confirmed.

P.S.—The two gentlemen were also ordered to recover the money which was due from (Cooch) Behar. They caused one thousand rupees to be paid and the balance would be discharged by instalments. They have completed their investigation regarding Jalpesh and Falakata and now they will submit their report to his lordship. The disputes concerning Falakata was settled during the time of the Deb Raj Lama Rimboche (*sic* in original) and now there exists no complaint about it². (*OR* 521 ; *TR* 28, pp 338-9, no 567 ; *AR* 4, p 501).

Dec. 12. 887. To Babbu Begam. Is pleased to hear of the marriage that is about to take place between the daughter of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah and the younger brother of Nawab Saiyid Ali Khan of Dacca. Asks the Begam to inform him when the ceremonies are over. Requests her also to see that all the unnecessary expenses of the *Nizam* are curtailed. (*CI* 20, pp 178-80, no 166 ; *AR* 4, p 527, no 284.)

Dec. 12. 888. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received his letter. Expresses confidence in his friendship and attachment. (*CI* 20, pp 180-1, no 167 ; *AR* 4, p 532, no 282).

¹ Messrs Mercer and Chauvet.

² Capt. Turner who was sent on a mission to Bhutan in 1783 ceded by order of the Government, Falakata and Jalpesh to the Deb Raja. These were previously held by the Zamindar of Baikunthpur. In 1787 the Deb Raja sent the Timpu Zimpen as a *wakil* to Calcutta for the purpose of procuring an adjustment of certain boundary questions which formed the subject of dispute between the Bhutias and the frontier zamindars. Again the Government directed that Falakata and Jalpesh should be made over to the Bhutias.

1738

- Dec. 13. 892. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. To the same effect as no 854 above. (OR 522; TR 28, pp 339-40, no 568; AR 4, p 506).
- Dec. 15. 890. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Congratulates him on the receipt of a *khilat* from Qutlaq Sultan Begam. (CI 20, p 181, no 168; AR 4, p 540, no 285).
- Dec. 17. 891. From Rao Fatch Singh, nephew of the Rana of Gohad. Says that his lordship knows well that due to the revolutions of Fate the condition of the Raja of Gohad and his dependants has become miserable. Requests that his lordship will order his agent residing with Mahadaji Sindhia to make arrangements for the residence of the Raja and his dependants including the writer either in Gohad or at Benares and that they may be permitted to leave their dependants behind at the residence fixed for them and to wait personally upon his lordship for some employment in the service of the Government. Says that later they will remove their families to wherever they may be posted. It is believed that Lala Atma Ram has explained all particulars to his lordship. Lala Hanchharam¹ will now explain more fully their present situation. Hopes favourable orders will be passed. (OR 523; TR 28, pp 340-1, no 569; AR 4, p 518).
- Dec. 17. 892. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Some time ago a letter addressed to the Company was sent to his lordship, agreeably to his desire, for favour of transmission and from his reply it appears that it has been forwarded. As it is a practice to transmit duplicates and triplicates in order to ensure against the accidents of the voyage he is now sending another letter with the request that it may also be forwarded to the Company.

Copy of a letter to the Hon'ble Company. Says that he is extremely delighted to learn from Earl Cornwallis that the Directors of the Company have written to him for the

¹ Banchharam, according to the vol. of translations.

enhancement of the Nawab's power and position. Says that he knows himself to be connected with the Company in adversity and prosperity and that as such he has always followed the conduct of friendship and good understanding with them. Has now planned to discharge his debts out of his own small allowance by curtailing the expenditure of some establishments. Hopes that through the kindness of Earl Cornwallis and the Company his distress will give place to happiness and everlasting comfort. Depends solely on the support of his lordship. Has written every particular in his previous letter. (OR 524; TR 28, pp 241-2, no 570; AR 4, p 510).

Dec. 17. 893. *Dastak* granted to Lala Makkhan Lal who is proceeding from Calcutta to Benares. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others on the way are directed not to molest him for tolls and duties. (CI 20, p 281, no 301).

Dec. 19. 894. *Intelligence*¹. Timur Shah having marched from Peshawar on 10 *Safar* reached Attock² on the 14th and crossed the river (Indus) on the 15th. He has got an army of 1,20,000 cavalry and is moving towards Multan³. The *wakil* of Lattiwala⁴ approached Timur Shah, sought his forgiveness and offered to pay him 30 lakhs of rupees as fine but the offer was not accepted. Timur Shah sent *sazawals* to Zafar Khan⁵, *Subedar* of Multan, with orders

¹ Received as an enclosure from the Resident with Mahadaji Sindhia.

² Town and district in the Punjab. It commands the historic passage across the Indus, through which the three great invaders of Hindustan, Alexander, Timur and Nadir Shah advanced.—*Imperial Gazetteer of India*; W. Hamilton: *East India Gazetteer*.

³ One of the most ancient cities of the Punjab. In 1752, Multan became a province of the Kings of Kabul, ruled for the most part by Pathan Governors.—*Imperial Gazetteer of India*.

⁴ Leti is a small town in the district of Attock about 24 miles to the east of the Indus and about 22 miles to the west of the town of Talagang.

⁵ This is an obvious mistake. The correct name is Nawab Muzaffar Khan Sadozai who remained in power at Multan from 1779 to 1818 on the part of Timur Shah, King of Kabul. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Punjab*, vol. II.

to collect grain and pieces of chintz and send them to him without delay. Raja Bijai Singh of Jodhpur has addressed an 'arzi to Timur Shah inviting him to march into the country in order to arrange the affairs of Hindustan, and offering his help and services to him. (OR 525; TR 28, p 343, no 671; AR 4, p 504).

Dec. 19. 895. From Raja Mahip Narayan Singh. Informs him that he has withdrawn his case which he had lodged against Mr James Grant in the (Supreme) Council. Hopes that the Governor-General will approve of his action. (OR 526; TR 28, pp 343-4, no 572; AR 4, p 497).

Dec. 19. 896. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Is awaiting an answer to his 'arzi of 8 Muharram. Reports that Hafiz Faridud-Din who had been sent previously with Bahadur Khan as an envoy to Tipu Sultan has again been deputed there probably at the request of the Sultan himself. This time he is going alone. On his return whatever transpires between him and Tipu Sultan will be communicated to his lordship. In accordance with the Nizam's order Mir Abul Qasim was deputed on 17 Safar as an envoy to his lordship to adjust the accounts between the Company and the Nizam. The writer gathers that the Mir will insist that the receipts of Saif Jang may be credited according to the *wasilat*¹ accounts. Mr Sadlier is busy examining the receipts. If the *wasilat* accounts of Saif Jang and his *naibs* are received there will be no further room for negotiation. This will amount to a few lakhs of rupees more or less than the bill for 8½ lakhs which Capt. Kennaway, in order to cut short the business and to expedite the adjustment, offered to the Nawab. Says that as he was busy in supplying Capt. Kennaway with full information in this matter it caused a delay in his correspondence with his lordship. (OR 527; TR 28, pp 344-5, no 573; AR 4, p 513).

¹ A: the proceeds of an estate; the mesne profits of land.

1788

- Dec. 19.* 897. From Muhammad Riza Khan. Informs his lordship that his elder brother, Saiyid Muhammad Husain Khan has passed away. (*OR* 528; *TR* 28, p 343, no 574; *AR* 4, p 509).
- Dec. 20.* 898. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Sends a present of oranges through Kamalud-Din Husain Khan and hopes that his lordship will condescend to accept it. (*OR* 529; *TR* 28, p 346, no 575; *AR* 4, p 510).
- Dec. 20.* 899. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has learnt that Mian Ilahi Bakhsh Khan fully communicated her message to his lordship who promised to afford her all facilities in the arrangement of her affairs. She considers his lordship as her brother and the comforter of her family and always prays for his happiness and prosperity. Says that she and her son, Muazzam Shah *alias* Khurram Bakht Bahadur, solely depend upon his support. Is anxiously awaiting a reply in detail to her message sent through Mian Ilahi Bakhsh. (*OR* 530; *TR* 28, p 347, no 576; *AR* 4, p 507).
- Dec. 20.* 900. *Intelligence*¹. Tipu Sultan encamped at Lal Bagh² and sent for his troops from cantonments. He called Dharam Das, *Diwan* of Kurnool, to his presence and reprimanded him for the non-payment of the money due from him. He ordered four *sarawals* to be deputed and is also preparing to send troops for realising the money. When he learnt that the European at the port of Koral³ had come out of the place⁴, he despatched an army of 10,000⁵ horse and 15,000 foot under the command of Gulab Khan to oppose him, and 20,000 men are assembled in the neighbourhood of Sira.⁶ From Madras it is reported that

¹ Received as an enclosure from the Resident at Hyderabad.

² Large and beautiful pleasure garden with a palace at the eastern extremity of the island of Seringapatam. The palace is no longer in existence. The site is marked by a mound among the ruins of Seringapatam.

³ Another name of Mangalore.

⁴ The meaning is not clear in the original.

⁵ 1,000 according to the vol. of translations.

⁶ "At Nowaserai", according to the vol. of English translations, is a misreading of the Persian text.

Madarul-Mulk son of the Nawab of Arcot, is dead¹, that Mahabat Jang is in charge of Raichur and that Asad Ali Khan has been nominated to the *Subedari* of Kotal². (OR 531 ; TR 28, p 347, no 577 ; AR 4, p 504).

Dec. 20. 901. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Condoles with him on the death of his elder brother, Saiyid Muhammad Husain Khan. (CI 20, p 282, no 302 ; AR 4, p 542, no 286).

Dec. 22. 902. From the zamindars, *chaudhris* and talukdars of Mymensingh³ and Jahangirnagar etc. Addresses in favour of Mr Hastings. (OR 532 ; TR 28, pp 348-50, no 578 ; AR 4, p 495).

Dec. 22. 903. From Khagendra Narayan, Nazir Deo. Has already informed his lordship of the particulars of his situation. His lordship was pleased to send Messrs Mercer and Chauvet to investigate his affairs and the writer was directed to attend on those gentlemen with authentic papers to establish his claims (in the *raj* of Cooch Behar). Has already produced before those gentlemen all the evidence, both oral and documentary. Mr Mercer has now taken away those documents to his lordship. Hopes he will go through these and re-establish the writer in his inheritance. Has no support except the Governor-General. His enemies have driven him away from his home. If he is rehabilitated through the kindness of his lordship it will spread his name and fame to every country in the world. Dated 19 *Aghan* 279. (OR 533-4 ; TR 28, pp 350-1, no 579 ; AR 4, p 515).

Dec. 23. 904. To Pratap Singh, Maharaja of Jaipur. Has received his letter through Rai Ram Singh. Is pleased to learn that the Maharaja proposes to pay a visit to Maharaja Bijai Singh for the settlement of certain important

¹ *Vide* no 837 above.

² Probably Koppal, hill fort and town in Raichur District, Hyderabad.

³ Town and district in East Bengal.

affairs. The fact that the addressee has thought it necessary to inform him of his intention is a convincing proof of his great attachment to him. (*CI* 20, p 182, no 169).

Dec. 24. 905. From Balaji Gobind Rao. Says that his lordship was pleased to grant him *dastak* for 3,000 persons to perform their pilgrimage at Gaya. But only 1,500 persons accompanied him for the purpose. Says that Kishanji Amba Das, *Musta'fi* and adherent of Mahadaji Sindbia Patel, arrived at Benares with 200 followers in order to perform his pilgrimage and has now set out for Gaya. Requests that a letter may be written to Mr Thomas Law asking him to grant exemption to the *Musta'fi* in lieu of the remaining 1,500 persons who could not go with the writer. Bhagwant Rao will present this letter to Mr Thomas Law. (*OR* 535 ; *TR* 28, p 351, no 580 ; *AR* 4, p 499).

Dec. 24. 906. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. The rumour of Timur Shah's entering India at the request of Ghulam Qadir and other chiefs is much talked about and has frightened the Sikhs and the Marathas. Says that the report seems to have no foundation, for a man named Haji has arrived from Kabul and reported that Timur Shah's army met with reverses in Sind and that he is now intending to send there a large army again under the command of Madad Khan¹.

The affairs of Benares and its courts are going on smoothly and the people there pray for the prosperity of his lordship. (*OR* 536 ; *TR* 28, p 352, no 581 ; *AR* 4, p 495).

Dec. 24². 907. To Beniram Pandit. Offers condolence on the death of his son. (*CI* 20, p 282, no 303 ; *AR* 4, p 525, no 287).

¹ A general of King Timur Shah. In 1782 he was sent to quell the rebellion of Talpurs in Sind. Muddoo Khan, according to the vol. of translations, is a misreading of the Persian text.

² December 23, according to the vol. of abstracts.

Dec. 26. **908.** From the Nizam. Says that Saiyid Muhammad Asim Khan¹ is an old servant of his family. Some time ago he went to Arcot and attached himself to Sirajud-Daulah², the Nawab of Arcot, whom he served most loyally. Has now learnt that the Nawab at the instigation of some of his enemies is causing him much distress and worries. He stationed troops over his house and stopped his supply of provision with the result that his youngest son died of thirst. If the Nawab had any charge to prefer against him he should have referred it to the Council at Madras. His treatment of the Khan is absolutely unbecoming and improper. Although the Governor and Council of Madras at length intervened and saved his honour yet they could not relieve him of his distress. Requests that his lordship, in consideration of the facts that the Khan is an old servant of his (the writer's) family and resides in the Company's territory, will be pleased to write to the Government of Madras that they should examine the Khan's accounts, grant him a deed of acquittance and send him and his family to the writer under an escort. (*OR 537 ; TR 28, pp 352-4, no 582 ; AR 4, p 595*).

Dec. 26. **909.** From the Nizam. Duplicate of the foregoing. (*OR 538 ; TR 28, pp 352-4, no 582 ; AR 4, p 595*).

Dec. 26. **910.** From Rajaram Pandit. Has not received any letter from his lordship for some time. Is anxious to know about his health. The Maharaja (Raghuji Bhonsla) was pleased to order the writer to keep up a correspondence with his lordship. Hopes therefore that his lordship will honour him with frequent letters and his commands. Bishambhar Pandit will communicate the state

¹ Saiyid Muhammad Asim Khan *Mubariz Jang* was the *Diwan* of Nawab Muhammad Ali Walajah of Arcot. In 1781, he was deputed to Calcutta where he successfully negotiated a treaty between the English and the Nawab. In 1789 he received from the Nawab Sankarapuram otherwise known as Alagapuram and other villages as *jagir* in perpetuity. He died in 1801.—I.R.D. : *Land Revenue Records*, 10 Apr 1844 (8-12) ; *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VI, and *South Arcot District Gazetteer*.

² Title of Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan.

of affairs of this quarter. (*OR* 539 ; *TR* 28, p 354, no 583 ; *AR* 4, p 518).

- Dec. 26. **911.** To the Peshwa and Nana Farnavis. Sends them a present of cloths through Mr Malet. (*CI* 20, p 183, no 170 ; *AR* 4, pp 544-7, nos 291-2).
- Dec. 26. **912.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges with thanks the receipt of his letter accompanying the present of oranges. (*CI* 20, p 283, no 304 ; *AR* 4, p 540, no 288).
- Dec. 26. **913.** To Bhawani Das Sahu. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 283, no 305 ; *AR* 4, p 529, no 289).
- Dec. 26. **914.** To Rajaram Pandit. Says that a confidant of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan (Mir Abul Qasim) is proceeding from Hyderabad to Calcutta by way of Cuttack. Asks the Pandit therefore to pay attention to him when he passes through his jurisdiction. (*CI* 20, p 284, no 306 ; *AR* 4, p 548, no 290).
- Dec. 30. **915.** To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Has received his letter intimating that Saiyid Muhammad Asim Khan, one of the old servants of the Nawab's family is experiencing hardship at the hands of the Nawab of Arcot. Says that agreeably to the addressee's request he has directed the Government of Madras to extricate the Khan from his difficulties and send him back to the Nawab. (*CI* 20, pp 184-5, no 171 ; *AR* 4, p 545, no 293).
- Dec. 30. **916.** To Prince Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Has received his letter. Is surprised to learn of his sudden departure from Benares and arrival at Lucknow against the wishes of Mr Duncan. Disapproves of this step taken by him. Under the circumstances the Governor-General has no alternative but to ask Mr Ives to desist from paying visits to him. That gentleman will see the addressee with this letter. (*CI* 20, pp 185-8, no 172 ; *AR* 4, p 543, no 294).

1788

- Dec. 30. 917. *Dastak* granted to Rai Ram Singh who is proceeding from Calcutta to Jagannath. He has with him articles of food and clothing and 25 companions. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others on the way are directed to let them pass unmolested. (CI 20, p 285, no 308).
- Dec. 31. 918. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has learnt from the paper of intelligence that on the night of 18 December Ghulam Qadir, his situation growing desperate, took to flight with 300 Rohilla horsemen. When this news reached the Maratha army Raiji Patel rode in hot pursuit with his troops, overtook him and an engagement ensued in which about 200 men on each side were killed and wounded. The remaining Rohillas took to their heels. As this event happened in the night the fate of Ghulam Qadir Khan is not known. It is uncertain whether he was killed or he escaped. The royal Princes have come to the Maratha army. Meerut has been burnt by the Marathas who have also taken possession of all the property belonging to Ghulam Qadir Khan. Dated 24 December 1788. (OR 540 ; TR 28, pp 354-5, no 584 ; AR 4, p 495).
- Dec. 31. 919. From Saiyid Ghulam Muhammad Khan. Arrived safely at Kabul on 15 *Rabi* II, paid his respects to his Majesty (Timur Shah) on the 25th of the same month and presented the *arzi* to His Majesty on the part of his lordship. His Majesty, after the perusal of the *arzi*, was pleased to order that a *khilat* of the rank of Vazir be prepared for his lordship. The writer was also honoured with a *khilat*. On his way back he was robbed by highwaymen of all his effects and was wounded. This caused a delay in his journey. However on 15 *Rabi* I (following year) he reached Agra where he had an interview with Major Palmer. Is in distress on account of the loss of all his belongings. Hopes to pay his respects to his lordship in a short time. Further particulars will be known from his letter which he has written to his brother (Ghulam Naqshband Khan. (OR 541 ; TR 28, pp 354-5, no 585 ; AR 4, p 503).

1788

Dec. 31. 920. *Prannath Pandit*, a *naib* posted in the *jagir* of *Beniram Pandit*, to *Bishambhar Pandit*. Mr Wodsworth has made a contract for the purchase of three or four thousand maunds of salt in the *mahals* of *Ankura*¹. He has loaded about 2,000 maunds on two sloops and brought them to *Balasore* where they have been stopp'd for the collection of duty. Mr Wodsworth says that the purchase has been made by the order of the Company and therefore he will not pay any duty. Will release the salt, if the addressee so desires. Otherwise he will collect the duty in the same manner as from other *beoparis* in *pargana* *Shahbandar*². Further reports that Mr Wodsworth has come to *mauza* *Kalkapur* in *pargana* *Shahbandar* and has sent out his *gumashta* to purchase salt from every place in order to export it from *Shahbandar*. As Mr Wodsworth does not agree to pay the duty he is writing to the addressee in order to learn his sentiments. (OR 542 ; TR 28, pp 356-7, no 586 ; AR 4, p 498).

Dec. 31. 921. *Intelligence*³. Yesterday the *Zamindar*⁴ of *mauza* *Zaini (Jani)*⁵ which lies at a distance of 5 or 6 *kos* from the camp of *Nawab Ali Bahadur*, came to the *Nawab* at midnight and informed him that *Ghulam Qadir Khan* had fallen from his horse and was to be found in his village.

¹ *Pargana* in *Balasore* District. *Ankarapara*, according to the vol. of translations.

² *Pargana* in *Balasore* District.

³ Enclosure in a letter from the Resident at *Sinhi's* camp, dated 21 December 1788.

⁴ According to the District Gazetteer of *Meerut* the captor of *Ghulam Qadir* was named *Bhika Ram*.

⁵ This appears to be the village *Jani* which is situated at a distance of eleven miles west of *Meerut* and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from *Timkia*, which according to the District Gazetteer of *Meerut*, was granted in *jagir* to the *Zamindar* who reported the presence of *Ghulam Qadir* in his village. The *Rohilla* could not have gone very far in his flight from *Meerut* fort as he had already been discovered at midnight, according to this message. Keene in his *Fall of the Mughal Empire* also gives the name of the village as *Jani*. *Sarkar* identifies the place with *Bamnauli*, 3 miles south-west of *Shamli* and about 40 miles from *Meerut*. *Rennetty*, in our vol. of translations is a misreading of the Persian original where the name can be read *Zaniti* or *Zaini*. Further *Zaini* approximates to *Zadi*, the *Maratha* version quoted by *Sarkar*, and this would tend to become *Jani* on the lips of the common people.

The Nawab ordered the Zamindar to take some horsemen with him and bring Ghulam Qadir Khan to his presence. The Zamindar agreed. Accordingly, in the morning the horsemen brought Ghulam Qadir to the Nawab who ordered guns to be fired (as a mark of rejoicing). He sent for Bilas Ray, Manyar Singh and the *nazir* and *qanungos* of Meerut and ordered them into confinement and directed Ramratan Modi to attend the Princes. Dated 20 *Rabi* 1=19 December 1788. (*OR* 543 ; *TR* 28, pp 357-8, no 543 ; *AR* 4, p 504).

- Jan. 1.* **922.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan, Raja Udwant Chand, Saliha Begam, Raja Bachhraj, the Rani of Burdwan, the Raja of Burdwan, the *Diwan* to the Raja of Burdwan and Sultan Daud. Congratulate his lordship on the occasion of Christmas. (*TR* 29, p 1, nos 1-8 ; *AR* 5, pp 1 and 3).
- Jan. 1.* **923.** From Kunwar Daulat Singh. Says that his lordship will have learnt every particular from his '*arzi*' which was despatched to him from Murshidabad. Intimates that he arrived safely at Patna on 20 *Rabi* 1 (19 December 1788). Sends his *nazr* on the occasion of Christmas. (*TR* 29, p 1, no 9 ; *AR* 5, p 8).
- Jan. 1.* **924.** From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Says that his lordship will have learnt from her *shuqqas* every particular of the conduct pursued by the enemies of her family and will have fully understood them. Mukarramud-Daulah drove away Mirza Shigufta Bakht by his conduct and has now inveigled Mirza Muzaffar Bakht and has thus proved himself to be a source of anxiety to her. He is desirous of her complete ruin. Appreciates the attachment and sympathetic conduct of Mr Duncan and Ali Ibrahim Khan and is fully satisfied with them. Says that she showed more affection to Mirza Shigufta Bakht and Mirza Muzaffar Bakht than to Mirza Khurram Bakht and always sought to please them. But enemies have separated them from her. Mukarramud-Daulah

has now taken away Mirza Muzaffer Bakht to the Deccan to carry out his own design. In compliance with the requests of Mr. Duncan, who is a real well-wisher, she gave Muzaffer Bakht 5 elephants, 5 horses, a howdah with tents and camels, etc. Says that she has no hopes but from God and his lordship. Whatever his lordship will think proper to do in regard to her son Khurram Bakht and herself will be done. Hopes to receive *'arzis* from him often as they afford her comfort. (*TR* 29, pp 2-3, no 10; *AR* 5, p 16).

Jan. 2. 925. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has already communicated to his lordship the particulars of the enmity borne towards the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) by his brothers on account of rivalry for power and possession. Is now sending the letters which she has received from the Begam, her mother, and from her mother's *vakil*, for his lordship's information. Says that Mirza Akbar Shah, instigated by hatred daily urges upon His Majesty to send for the writer and her children to the Presence. His Majesty is so intent on this subject that Mubarak Mahal Begam¹ had sent a message to Taj Mahal Begam to allow herself to be searched. From this his lordship will easily perceive how hostile she is. During His Majesty's lifetime this has been said to Taj Mahal Begam, and if, God forbid, she and her children should repair to that quarter what hatred and enmity will she not show. As his late Royal Highness left them under the Company's protection she is convinced that proper measures will be adopted to counteract the intrigues. The fact is this. When His Majesty was in 'this' part of the country the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) was at Delhi and His Majesty had nominated him his heir-apparent². They (partisans of Akbar Shah) repeatedly tried to get Mirza Akbar Shah

¹ One of the wives of Emperor Shah Alam and mother of Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh.

² The throne of Delhi having fallen vacant by the murder of Alamgir II, Shah Alam was proclaimed King but owing to his absence in Bihar Jahandar Shah was made the Regent till his return.

nominated as heir-apparent but they could not succeed. When His Majesty returned to Delhi his kindness and affection for Mirza Akbar Shah surpassed all bounds, but none dared call him heir-apparent in the presence of his late Royal Highness. One day His Majesty was taken ill and he sent for the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) and putting the hands of the people of the *mahal*¹ into those of the Prince committed them to his (Prince's) care. If the late Prince had been alive at this time, Ghulam Qadir could not have perpetrated such outrages as he did. He would have met with his deserts at the hands of the Prince. Now, Muazzam Shah, known as Mirza Khurram Bakht, as the son of the heir-apparent, should succeed to the inheritance of his deceased father. Hopes that by the aid and kindness of his lordship, he (Muazzam Shah) will inherit the throne.

I. *Taj Mahal Begam to Qutlaq Sultan Begam.* Received her 'arzi of 7 Rabi I (6 December 1788). Has perfectly understood all that she has written with regard to Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah. On the death of the late Prince he professed sincere attachment to her (Qutlaq Sultan) and from his 'arzi she learnt that he bore enmity towards Mirza Haji (Shigufta Bakht). Now she cannot understand what has happened to him that he has taken a different turn. Is very much disturbed in mind. Assures her that the enmity of Mukarramud-Daulah can do her no harm. Has repeatedly written to him to remain loyal to her and obtain her forgiveness for his faults. Heaven alone knows why he has not yet done so. Mubarak Mahal Begam is firmly resolved to bring the addressee and the children to the Presence. Hopes that she will write her 'arzis every now and then.

II. *Mother of Qutlaq Sultan Begam to her daughter.* Is glad to receive her three *shuqqas*. Says that Mubarak Mahal and Khairun-Nisa Begam advised His Majesty to send for her and the three children but nothing has

¹ A. seraglio, mansion, palace.

yet been decided. The Marathas have taken possession of the country and are afraid of none. She has written this for her information so that she may not neglect proper measures and may make every arrangement with the English so that no one may have power over her. The empire is gone and the cursed rebel (Ghulam Qadir) has made Akbar Shah¹ the King. He is King of Meerut and except Mubarak Mahal Begam no one calls him King.

III. *Inayat Shah to Qutlag Sulian Begam.* Says that His Majesty has made up his mind to send for her and counsels are held on this subject in the durbar. His Majesty says that he will desire the Marathas to send for her and that he will keep her with him. She should therefore be on her guard and should not place the least confidence in their declarations for they are positively her enemies.

IV. *Niaz Ali Khan to Qutlag Sultan Begam.* Has always written to her about the every day occurrences at His Majesty's durbar and the activities of every chief. Matters continue in the same way. Ghulam Qadir Khan had sent the son of Mirza Mendu² in company with Manyar (Singb) to Ali Bahadur and Rana Khan to negotiate on behalf of the Princes. They stayed in their camp for one night but nothing could be adjusted. So the next morning they returned to their own camp. Skirmishes take place every day but now there is a great scarcity of grain. The people of Ghulam Qadir Khan's army had loaded an elephant with salt, etc. and wanted to carry it away. Rana Khan heard it and seized the elephant. Affairs of Najaf Quli Khan and Ismail Beg Khan are as usual. Ismail Beg has confined the three chiefs of Najaf Quli Khan who came for negotiations with him. Nur Khan went on the part of Ismail Beg to take possession of Gokalgarh and was confined by the people of that fort. Has already written

¹ *Vide* no 861 above.

² *Darogha* of Sindhia's artillery stationed with the King.

the state of affairs in the Delhi Fort. Mubarak Mahal follows the foot-steps of Ghulam Qadir Khan in her attitude towards the people of the *mahal*. A message has been sent to Taj Mahal Begam and others to permit themselves to be searched. Taj Mahal Begam has now quitted the fort and gone to reside in the town. She has sent word that the house was open and that she (Mubarak Mahal) might do whatever she liked. She added that from the day of her son's death she had given up every desire for worldly possessions. Sahiba Mahal Begam¹ also said that she had no objection to the search being made and that she might be turned out of the fort, if it was so desired. To this it was replied that when Bedar Shah comes in they should go out. The King resides in the new *mahal*. The writer has no prospect in regard to *sanads* and *shuqqas*. Has repeatedly represented every particular relative to the *jagir*. Hopes to be honoured speedily with an answer that he may set out to see (Mahadaji) Sindh'a. Delay is not advisable². (TR 29, pp 4-13, no 11 ; AR 5, p 16).

Jan. 4.

926. From the Nawab Vazir. Is grateful to his lordship for all the favours shown to him. Says that it is not his practice to complain against the English gentlemen but most reluctantly he has to say that since the arrival of Mr Arnot³ he is experiencing great uneasiness. He is not a servant of the Company. He resides here only for his private trade. The writer has given all the English gentlemen the privilege of making purchases freely through their *gumashtas* at every place in his dominions where articles of trade are produced. This has been communicated by Mr Ives to his lordship who was pleased to approve of this action. Requests his lordship to recall Mr Arnot to Calcutta. His *gumashtas* may make purchases on his behalf. (TR 29, pp 13-14, no 12 ; AR 5, p 32).

¹ Widow of Emperor Muhammad Shah.

² The language of this letter is confused and not quite clear in meaning. The Persian text is not available.

³ A grain merchant.

1789

- Jan. 7.* 927. From Munni Begam. Complimentary. (*TR* 29, pp 14-15, no 13; *AR* 5, p 18).
- Jan. 7.* 928. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Had despatched a letter to his lordship through Lala Moti Lal which doubtless he has perused. Is highly thankful to his lordship for all the favours and kindnesses shown to the writer. As Lala Moti Lal has taken leave of his lordship he is deputing Lala Raushan Ray in his place. Hopes that he will be treated with favour. (*TR* 29, pp 15-16, no 14; *AR* 5, p 10).
- Jan. 7.* 929. From Hari Bhadar Pandit. Intimates that he arrived at Benares where Mr Duncan had purchased the elephants according to his lordship's orders and delivered them over to him. He would have proceeded on his journey but Beniram Pandit's son died of small-pox and consequently he (the writer) postponed his departure and remained there to console the bereaved father. The articles sent as a present by his lordship to the Maharaja (Raghuji Bhonsla) have been handed over to Lala Dharm Chand to take with him. The Lala has been in the Maharaja's presence and is also acquainted with Mr Forster. The articles will arrive safely at Nagpur and will be made over to Mr Forster in accordance with the direction of his lordship. (*TR* 29, p 16, no 15).
- Jan. 7.* 930. From Bhao Bakhshi. Acknowledges receipt of his lordship's letter. Says that the exemption which his lordship has granted from the Gaya duties in favour of the mother of Raja Deshmukh Rao, in compliance with the requests of the Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia, has afforded great pleasure to the Maharaja. Is thankful to his lordship for the grant of exemptions from the duties of Gaya to Balaji Gobind Rao. Intimates that he arrived at Benares, performed his pilgrimage there and took Appa Chitnavis with him to Lucknow. Has now taken leave of the Vazir and is setting out for the camp (of Sindhia). When he has reached the camp he will address a letter to his lordship. Bhagwant Rao always writes to him the

1789

particulars of the favour his lordship shows towards the writer and he is thankful for the same. Hopes to be honoured with a reply. (*TR* 29, *p* 17, *no* 16 ; *AR* 5, *p* 4).

- Jan.* 7. **931.** From Raja Mahip Narayan Singh. Congratulates his lordship on the occasion of *Holi*. (*TR* 29, *p* 18, *no* 17).
- Jan.* 7. **932.** From Harak Chand, *Jagat Seth*. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TR* 29, *p* 18, *no* 18 ; *AR* 5, *p* 14).
- Jan.* 7. **933.** From Raja Uttam Chand. To the same effect. (*TR* 29, *p* 18, *no* 19 ; *AR* 5, *p* 25).
- Jan.* 7. **934.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter complaining against Mr Arnot and requesting the Governor-General immediately to order his return to Calcutta, adding that the Nawab will have no objection if the *gumashta* of that gentleman stays in his country and makes purchases, on behalf of his master, of such goods as are manufactured in his dominions. Says in reply that in consideration of his friendship for the Nawab he has directed Mr Ives to ask Mr Arnot to move into the Company's territories as soon as practicable. (*CI* 20, *pp* 296-7, *no* 1 ; *TI* 35, *p* 1, *no* 1 ; *AR* 5, *p* 55).
- Jan.* 7. **935.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has already communicated to him his sentiments about Prince Mirza Shigufia Bakht. Has now received a letter from the Mirza setting forth his grievances against Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah (Akbar Ali Khan) and his objections to remain with the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan) and explaining his reason for coming to Lucknow without giving previous intimation to either of them (the Nawab or his lordship). The Mirza says that he came to Lucknow at the evil advice of his counsellors and that he regrets the step that he took. Taking, however, his young age into consideration the Governor-General has

1789

written to Mr Ives to pay him the usual complimentary attention. As a friend he informs the Nawab of this and encloses for his perusal copies of the Mirza's letter and his own reply to it. (*CI* 20, pp 297-8, no 2; *TI* 35, pp 1-2, no 2; *AR* 5, p 55).

- Jan. 7. **936.** To Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Is sorry to observe from the statement of accounts transmitted to him by Mr Ives that the *qists* at Lucknow have not of late been discharged with that punctuality which had been the practice in the past. Urges therefore as a friend, that strict regularity should be maintained in future in the payment of the *qists*. Trusts that the Khan would exert himself in the preservation of the friendship existing between the Nawab Vazir and the Company. Expresses his satisfaction at the punctual payment of the bills drawn on the House of Raja Bachhraj at Calcutta. (*CI* 20, pp 298-9, no 3; *TI* 35, pp 2-4, no 3; *AR* 5, p 42).
- Jan. 7. **937.** To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. To the same effect as no 904 above. (*CI* 20, pp 300-1, no 4; *TI* 35, p 4, no 4; *AR* 5, p 43).
- Jan. 8. **938.** From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Says that the wishes of his heart for a meeting with his lordship and for the pleasure of his company have been fulfilled and that he is exceedingly pleased with his lordship's hospitality. But as the summer season is approaching when travelling becomes difficult, he proposes to set out (for Benares) on 15 January. Seeks an interview with his lordship in order to take his leave. (*TR* 29, p 18, no 20; *AR* 5, p 27).
- Jan. 10. **939.** From Haidar Beg Khan. Has received his lordship's letter comforting him on the death of his sister. Thanks him for it and says that although he is deeply afflicted, yet as there is no alternative but patience, he has resigned himself to the will of God. (*TR* 29, p 19 no 21; *AR* 5, p 13).

1789

- Jan. 10. **940.** To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Acknowledges receipt of his two letters informing him of the flight of Ghulam Qadir Khan and of the rumour that Timur Shah was advancing towards India. Says that he had learnt of these events from newspapers before the receipt of the Nawab's letters. Thanks him all the same for the information communicated by him and hopes that the addressee will continue to keep him informed of the news of that quarter. (*CI* 20, p 471, no 71; *TI* 35, p 4, no 5; *AR* 5, p 35).
- Jan. 10. **941.** To Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam, widow of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter. Agreeably to her request permission is granted to her to go to Patna. (*CI* 20, pp 471-2, no 72; *TI* 35, p 4, no 6; *AR* 5, p 50).
- Jan. 10. **942.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter together with one for the Court of Directors. Informs him that the letter meant for the Court of Directors has been forwarded to England. (*CI* 20, p 472, no 73; *TI* 35, p 5, no 7; *AR* 5, p 45).
- Jan. 10. **943.** To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Has received his letter requesting his lordship's permission to leave Calcutta for Benares on Thursday (15 January 1789). Asks him to call at his residence for a farewell visit on Wednesday (14th January 1789) at 10 o'clock in the morning. (*CI* 20, pp 472-3, no 74; *TI* 35, p 5, no 8; *AR* 5, p 53).
- Jan. 10. **944.** To Raja Basant Ram. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 473, no 75; *TI* 35, p 5, no 9; *AR* 5, p 36).
- Jan. 10. **945.** To Rajaram Pandit. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 473-4, no 76; *TI* 35, p 5, no 10; *AR* 5, p 51).
- Jan. 10. **946.** To Ghulam Ahmad Khan. Has received his 'arzi giving an account of his visit to Kabul and of his audience with His Majesty (Timur Shah) and informing

him of his distress caused by the plunder of all his effects by highwaymen on his way back. The Khan has now reached Agra where he interviewed Major Palmer and proposes to set out for Calcutta shortly. Informs him that the Major has been directed to render the Khan all assistance for his journey to Calcutta. (CI 29, p 474, no 77; TI 35, p 6, no 11; AR 4, p 41).

Jan. 10. 947. To Mir Muhammad Husain. Complimentary reply to his letter. (CI 20, pp 474-5, no 78; TI 35, p 6, no 12; AR 5, p 46).

Jan. 12. 948. *The Rani of Burdwan to Sir John Shore.* Says that the affairs of the Burdwan *chakla* are well known to him. The Maharaja is a child. Daya Chand, Lala Babu and other evil-minded men have attached themselves to him. They give him bad advice and mislead him. Is unable to describe the distress they have brought on the ryots of the country. Has repeatedly spoken to the Maharaja to dismiss these people but he does not listen to her. He has made Daya Chand and others the manager and controllers of the zamindari and revenue. Says that she has only one son and her mind is distressed to see his conduct. She does not know what will be the result of all this and she is much alarmed. In order to increase his posterity she had provided for four marriages but the consequences, as a mother, she thinks it improper to communicate. As the English gentlemen are always attentive to the welfare of her family she has taken the liberty frankly to represent her domestic affairs and hopes that she will be permitted to discharge Daya Chand, Lala Babu and other bad men so that the Maharaja may comprehend the affairs of his country and transact them with her advice and the good name of his ancestors may not be sullied. (TR 29, pp 19-20, no 22; AR 5, p 3).

Jan. 12. 949. I. *Raghuji Bhonsla to Bishambhar Pandit.* Acknowledges the receipt of his letter stating that he has informed the Governor-General about the conversation

that passed between him and Mr Forster and intimating that the Governor-General has kindly presented to him 2 elephants, a string of pearls, a *sarpech*, a *jigha* and cloths. Has also understood the contents of his letter to Bhawani Pandit relative to the boundary villages on that side of the Subarnarekha¹ and Sambalpur.² Has received letters from Beniram Pandit mentioning the arrival of Hari Bhadar Pandit with the presents at Benares and his intention of sending him (Hari Bhadar) to 'this' quarter at the end of *Katik*. Bhawani Pandit has also communicated every particular to him. His lordship's letter wishing the daily increase of friendship between them has also been received. Is himself desirous of the closest friendship with the English and asks the addressee to impress this on his lordship's mind. Says that Hari Bhadar Pandit has not arrived as yet. When he comes he (Raghuji) will acquaint himself with every particular from him and will send him back without delay. Directs him to write a letter to Beniram Pandit condoling with him on the death of his wife and son. Hopes that the addressee has conversed with his lordship on the subject of the villages on the bank of the Subarnarekha. The request of his lordship for the supply of wheat will be complied with as soon as Hari Bhadar Pandit returns. Positive orders have been issued to Rajaram Pandit to be particularly careful that his '*amils*' do not dispute with those of the English territory. Whoever shall venture to act contrary to the orders shall be dismissed. Hopes that he has communicated the affair of Sambalpur to his lordship. Jaswant Rao and Bhawani Singh have been sent with troops towards Chhattisgarh³ in order to check the rebellious people. But that place is very turbulent and the zamindars have plundered the goods belonging to

¹ The Subarnarekha, 'the streak of gold', traverses Chota Nagpur, Manbhum and Singbhum Districts, generally forming a district boundary. It then passes into the tributary state of Mayurbhanj; and leaving Mayurbhanj to traverse Midnapore and Balasore Districts, falls in the latter District into the Bay of Bengal.—Hunter : *A Statistical Account of Bengal*.

² Town and district in Orissa.

³ Division in Central Provinces.

the government. It is therefore necessary to punish them. Aid in mutual concerns is proper. Chota Nagpur and Sambalpur are contiguous. Let the English battalions join Jaswant Rao and Bhawani Shankar to assist them in punishing the refractory zamindars and establishing the authority of this government.

II. *Munshi Bhawani Pandit to Bishambhar Pandit.* Acknowledges the receipt of his letter intimating that the Governor-General has sent some presents for the Maharaja (Raghuji Bhonsla) through Hari Bhadar Pandit. Is convinced that the good understanding existing between the Company and the Maharaja will continue to increase daily. Refers him for other particulars about Cuttack and Sambalpur to the letter addressed to him by the Maharaja. Hopes that the addressee will represent all these particulars to his lordship. The addressee should also request the Governor-General not to summon Messrs Forster and Rind to Calcutta but to allow them to remain here.

III. *Munshi Bhawani Pandit to Bishambhar Pandit.* As the Maharaja is about to set out for Poona it is advisable that Mr Forster should remain here. Asks the addressee therefore to request the Governor-General to direct the gentleman to remain here till the Maharaja's return.

IV. *Munshi Bhawani Pandit to Bishambhar Pandit.* Says that an English gentleman of consequence (Capt. Kennaway) has gone to Hyderabad with elephants and other presents from Calcutta. He has been residing there for four months now. Formerly an engagement existed between the Nizam and the English that Guntur and Mustafanagar¹ would remain in the possession of Basalat

¹ Kondapallee, a *pargana* in Kistna District, Madras was called Mustafanagar after one of the generals of King Muhammad Quli Qutab Shah of Hyderabad. It was one of the five Northern Circars ceded by the Nizam to the English in 1759 and confirmed by the Emperor Shah Alam in 1765 A. D.—*Manual of the Kistna District, Madras.*

1789

Jang as long as he lived and that after his death these were to be made over to the English. Basalat Jang died in 1782 and the aforesaid gentleman has accordingly been deputed to Hyderabad to demand the cession of these *sarkars* to the English. The Nizam has given him a *khil'at*, elephants etc. and has sent him away in the company of one of his own trusted agents (Mir Abul Qasim). To all appearance a firm friendship subsists between the Nizam and 'this' quarter. But in the *suba* of Bihar and *suba* Kujang¹ etc. there are joint possessions of both the (Bengal and Nagpur) governments and on this account disputes arise among the *jagirdars* annually. If for this reason he (the Governor-General) has taken offence there is no help for it but nothing has been yet declared. Therefore it is probable that there will be much discussion on this subject with the (Nizam's) *vakil*, who is on his way to 'that' quarter. The addressee should therefore impress upon the *vakil* that a close friendship exists between the English and the Bhonsla. Similarly the Governor-General should be requested to stress in his conversations with the *vakil* that if anything should happen to them (the Bhonsla's government) the English would afford them their assistance. This will be productive of innumerable benefits. Asks the addressee to speak to his lordship in private that the sincere friendship with this quarter may be the subject of conversation with the (Nizam's) *vakil*.

V. *Munshi Bhawani Pandit to Bishambhar Pandit.* Says that since the death of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla the burden of administration has fallen on Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Doubtless this government will be rendered more flourishing and splendid than before and the reputation and dignity of it will daily increase in every respect. These particulars are well known to all the Deccan Chiefs. Sadasheo Pandit has arrived from Poona with *khil'at* and jewels of condolence for the Maharaja

¹ Kangteng, according to the vol. of translations. Kujang, a *par-gana* in Cuttack District.

1789

and letters for his ministers. The Peshwa is extremely anxious that the Maharaja should visit Poona. A firm friendship exists between this (Nagpur) government and the government of the Peshwa. As soon as sundry domestic matters are settled and the troops etc. are ready the Maharaja will set out for that quarter (Poona). Requests the addressee to communicate all these particulars to his lordship and procure a letter addressed to Mr Forster allowing him to remain at Nagpur till the Maharaja's return from Poona. (*TR* 29, pp 20-29, no 23 ; *AR* 5, p 28).

Jan. 12. **950.** From Raghuji Bhonsla. Acknowledges the Governor-General's letter of condolence on the death of his father (Mudhoji Bhonsla). Has not yet received the presents sent by his lordship but has been informed by Beniram Pandit that they have reached Benares on their way to Nagpur. Has written the secrets of his heart to Bishambhar Pandit, according to the old custom, who will communicate them to his lordship in private. Requests his lordship not to disclose the secrets and to send a reply soon. (*TR* 29, pp 29-32, no 24 ; *AR* 5, p 28).

Jan. 13. **951.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Sends a present of ice. (*TR* 29, p 32, no 25; *AR* 5, p 18).

Jan. 13. **952.** To Balaji Gobind Rao. Has received his letter saying that at the time of his visit to Gaya a *dastak* of exemption from the payment of pilgrim tax was granted to him and to his 3,000 followers. But owing to the approach of rainy season some of his companions could not then accompany him and the addressee had to perform his pilgrimage with only 1,500 of his followers. The addressee has further stated that Kishnaji Amba Das, *mustawfi* of Maharaja Sindhia, has now reached Benares with 200 followers and he therefore requests the Governor-General to direct Mr Law, Collector of Gaya, to grant them exemptions from pilgrim duties and to raise no objections in regard to those 1,500 persons who were left behind when the addressee proceeded on his pilgrimage

1789

and who are now on their way to Gaya. Says in reply that agreeably to the request of the addressee the Governor-General had granted exemptions from Gaya duties to his 3,000 followers and that it also appears that Mr Law did exempt from duties all those pilgrims who then accompanied him. The addressee must be aware that since the Governor-General's arrival in India certain regulations have been adopted relating to these exemptions and it is essential to abide by the resolutions once made. The resolutions are that the duties at Gaya shall be realised in every case except where the friendship subsisting between the Company and any of the chiefs is so strong as to admit of an exemption being granted. The addressee must also be conscious of the fact that it was in view of their mutual friendship that he so readily complied with his request for exemption. Regrets however that he is unable to grant any request for further remission. Refers him to Bhagwant Rao for particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 301-2, no 5 ; *TI* 35, pp 6-7, no 13; *AR* 5, p 36).

Jan. 14. **953.** From Balaji Rao Gobind. Complimentary reply. (*TR* 29, p 32, no 26; *AR* 5, p 5).

Jan. 14. **954.** From Babu Sarabjit Singh. Congratulates his lordship on the occasion of Christmas. (*TR* 29, p 33, no 27; *AR* 5, p 30).

Jan. 14. **955.** From Fateh Singh Gaikwar.¹ Requests that the district of Broach,² which belonged to his ancestors and which was made over to the English as a token of friendship, may now be returned to him. Had it remained in possession of the English he would never have asked for its restitution. But he cannot bear that it should be transferred to his enemies.³ Hopes that his lordship has learnt every particular from the contents of his previous

¹ Gaikwar of Baroda. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 358, f. n. 4.

² Taluk in Bombay with city and port of the same name, ancient centre of trade.

³ Broach was ceded by the English to Mahadaji Sindhia by a *sand* of 5 June 1782.

letters and from the letters of Munshi Swarup Ram and will do justice to him. Requests a reply. (*TR* 29, pp 33-4, no 28 ; *AR* 5, p 12).

Jan. 14. **956.** *Fateh Sing's Gaikwar to the Governor-General's Council.* To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TR* 29, p 34, no 29 ; *AR* 5, p 12).

Jan. 14. **957.** From Abbas Quli Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter in reply to his 'arzi. Says that Major Munro¹ and Mr Stables² desired his deceased father (Nawab Munirud-Daulah)³ to fix his residence in the Company's territory which was a place of safety. Lord Clive⁴ and General Carnac⁵, being of the same opinion prevailed on his father to quit Benares with his family

¹ Sir Hector Munro (1723-1805). Son of Hugh Munro. Ensign in the 48th Regt. in 1749. Suppressed a mutiny of sepoys at Patna in 1764. Won the decisive battle of Buxar, October 23, 1764, defeating the Nawab Vazir of Oudh, Shujaud-Daulah and Mir Qasim. Lt.-Colonel in 1765. Commanded the Madras Army, 1778. Took Pondicherry from the French, 1778. K. B. 1779. Engaged in the field against Haidar Ali, 1780-1. Captured Negapatam, November 1781. Returned to England. Major-General in 1782. General in 1798. Died at Novar, December 27, 1805. Buckland: *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

² John Stables went to Bengal from Madras as an Ensign, volunteering with Col. Caillaud, November 1759. Commanded a detachment at Monghyr, December 1760. Attacked and defeated the Raja of Kurakpur. His action and conduct highly approved by the Council (in India) and Court of Directors. Commanded a battalion at the battle of Buxar, October 23, 1764. Retired from active service in 1769. Became Member of the S. C., November 1782, from where he resigned in 1787. *Ibid.*

³ Munirud-Daulah I, Nawab, *Naib Vazir* and Minister of Shah Alam.

⁴ Clive, Robert, Lord, Governor of Bengal (1758-60; 1765-7 A. D.)

⁵ John Carnac (1716-1800). Entered the East India Company's service in 1758, as Captain, from H. M.'s. 39th Regt. In 1760 commanded at Patna, and in 1761 defeated the Delhi Emperor near Bihar and took prisoner M. Law with his men. Beat off Shujaud-Daulah's attack on Patna, April, 1764. Was Brig-General in 1764, and defeated the Marathas in the Doab in 1765. Received Emperor Shah Alam and Vazir Shujaud-Daulah, and closed the war. M. P. for Leeminster, 1767. In 1776 was Member of Council, Bombay. Member of the Superintending Committee on the expedition against Poona, 1778. Was dismissed from the East India Company's service for his share in the convention of Wargaoon, January 14, 1779. Died at Mangalore, November 9, 1800, according to Buckland and 29 November 1800, according to Hodson.

and reside at Patna. They allotted the house of one Muhammad Amin Khan for his residence and assigned the *mahals* of Jahanpur¹ and Bimpur² for his support. Lord Clive assured the deceased that he had duly recorded the grant in the books of the Company and that there would be no trouble about it in future. As long as his (the writer's) father was alive he always exerted himself in carrying out the wishes of the English. When Lord Clive came to Lucknow he interviewed his father at Benares before his return to Calcutta. The deceased recommended his family to the Governor's (Clive's) care. After his death the writer in the company of his three brothers went to see the Governor at Calcutta and related to him the particulars of their debts to the *mahajans* etc. The Governor promised to investigate the case. As Mr Lane³ had improperly sequestrated their *altamgha*,⁴ the Governor asked them to present an '*arzi*' to the Council. Accordingly, Raja Daya Ram on their behalf submitted an '*arzi*'. Messrs Lawrell⁵ and Dacres⁶ held that there was no order for continuing the *jagir* of a deceased person. The Governor replied that it was not an ordinary *jagir* but an *altamgha* granted by the Company. Mr Lawrell then asked that if the Governor desired to restore it who would be answerable for it? The Governor took the responsibility on himself. Mr John Graham knew that it was an *altamgha* and as he was going to Europe, he promised to tell the Directors about it. After much altercation the Council signed the '*arzi*' and an order was

¹ *Mahal* in the suburbs of Patna.

² *Mahal* in the suburbs of Patna.

³ Thomas Lane, Chief of Patna.

⁴ T. a grant of land under the royal seal in perpetuity; royal insignia, diploma.

⁵ James Lawrell, was educated as an Engineer. Transferred from the Madras Civil Service to Bengal. Member of Comptrolling Council of Revenue at Murshidabad, 1770. Member, Committee of Circuit, 1772. Lawrence, in the vol. of translations, is an obvious mistake of the copyist.

⁶ Philip Milner Dacres. Arrived in India in 1756 and was posted as Assistant Import Warehouse-Keeper. Chief of Patna English factory in 1775. Retired in 1784. *Bengal Past and Present*, vol. XXVIII, pp 201-2.

issued to Mr Lane, Chief of Patna, for the release of the *altamgha*. A private letter was also written for this purpose. The contents of the letter may be seen in the records of the Council. It was understood from Mr Stuart's conversation that an order would also be issued on Murshidabad for twenty-four lakhs of rupees to be paid to the writer and his brothers. They (the writer and his brothers) went again to see the Governor (Mr Hastings) who replied that he would pass an order on Murshidabad after three days. In the meantime a letter was received from Madras from General Clavering¹ intimating his arrival. At this the Governor thought that as the General was coming the order should be passed by the Governor-General in Council. On the General's arrival however a disagreement took place between him and the Governor (who became the Governor-General). The Governor-General thereupon intimated to them that the time was unfavourable and that the previous settlement would not stand. So he desired them to go back and come up again next year for their money. In the meantime his eldest brother, Shuja' Khan,² took possession of everything, money and *altamgha*, and the writer with his other brothers was deprived of them. At this they lodged a complaint in the 'Adalat at Patna and the matter came before the Supreme Council in appeal. The Governor-General and the Council consulted the *maulavis*³ for their opinion on the partition of the *altamgha* lands and directed the Patna Council to divide the estate among the heirs accordingly. They further demanded the account of *jama-kharch*⁴ from Shuja' Khan for the ten years during which he held possession of the estate. The Chief of

¹ Sir John Clavering (1722-77). Son of Sir James Clavering. Became Lt. General in 1770. In 1774 went to India. C. in C. in India and one of the four members of the Supreme Council under the Regulating Act of 1773. Claimed to be Governor-General but his claim was rejected by the Supreme Court. Died on August 30, 1777.

² Munirud-Daulah II, Nawab, eldest son of Nawab Munirud-Daulah I.

³ A. a learned man; a teacher, especially of Arabic; an expounder of Muhammadan Law.

⁴ P. receipts and disbursements.

Patna obtained them and sent them to the Presidency. The Governor-General and Council referred them for investigation and translation to Mr Duncan. The Governor-General then set out for Lucknow and they were asked to wait till his return. Messrs Wheeler,¹ Macpherson and Duncan said that the division of the property would be made at the commencement of the year. Mr Brooke, however, gave the farm of the *altamgha* lands to Din Muhammad for five years and the business was postponed until the expiration of the lease. Is astonished that though the English gentlemen showed them great favour and kindness yet they (sons of Munirud-Daulah) were not informed of this arrangement. It would have been proper to tell them on the first day that the *altamgha* was granted in lieu of the twenty-four lakhs due to them from the Company and should remain in their possession only till that sum was realised. Says that relying on the declarations of the Company and Lord Clive and on the kindness and friendship of the English gentlemen they neglected to seek their own livelihood. Otherwise by this time they would have been engaged in fending for themselves. It is a pity that with the Company as their friends they should be head over ears in debt to the *mahajans* and be suffered thus to fall into ruin. (*TR* 29, pp 34-9, no 30 ; *AR* 5, p 2).

Jan. 14. **958.** From the Vazir. Commends Nawab Karim Quli Khan,² who is going to Calcutta, to the Governor-General's favour. (*TR* 29, p 39, no 31 ; *AR* 5, p 32).

Jan. 14. **959.** From Karim Quli Khan. Says that in obedience to his lordship's orders he immediately set out from Lucknow and has been for a month in attendance on Mr Thomas Law. Other particulars relative to him will be made known to his lordship by Mr Law. Hopes that

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 118, f. n. 1.

² His personal name was Farzand Khan and was styled as Nawab Ziaud-Daulah Tahavvur Jang. He was a son of Nawab Munirud-Daulah I.

1789

these will meet with his approbation and that he will be honoured with a letter. (*TR* 29, p 40, no 32; *AR* 5, p 15).

Jan. 14. 960. To the Queen of Cannanore. Acknowledges the receipt of her friendly letter. Is pleased to learn of her intention to remain firm to the provisions of the treaty of alliance concluded between her and the Company through General MacLeod. Assures her on the part of the English that they will also equally abide by the terms of the engagement. Asks her therefore to rest assured on this account and to continue to write to him about her health and welfare. (*CI* 20, pp 392-3, no 6; *TI* 35, pp 7-8, no 14; *AR* 5, p 51).

Jan. 14. 961. To Hari Bhadar Pandit. Acknowledges the receipt of his 'arzi. Condoles with him on the death of Beniram's son. Approves of his having forwarded the presents meant for the Maharaja (Raghuji Bhonsla) to Mr Forster under the charge of Dharm Chand. (*CI* 20, pp 475-76, no 79; *TI* 35, p 8, no 15; *AR* 5, p 42).

Jan. 14. 962. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter intimating that he has nominated Lala Raushan Ray as his *vakil* to reside at Calcutta in the place of Lala Moti Lal, who, having taken leave of his lordship, was on his way to Rampur in order to attend to some private business of his own. Informs him that his new *vakil* has safely reached Calcutta and is attending on him. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 476, no 80; *TI* 35, p 9, no 16; *AR* 5, p 40).

Jan. 14. 963. *Notification*. Notice is hereby given that all persons whosoever (the Magistrates of districts excepted) are prohibited from making use of, or constructing, boats of the following denominations and dimensions after 1 March next.

Lakkhas 40 to 90 cubits long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 cubits broad.

*Jalkas*¹ 30 to 70 cubits long and $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 cubits broad.

¹ Ben. a long narrow boat or canoe used by river pirates.

*Pansi*¹ of Chandpur type, carrying more than ten oars.

That the Magistrates of Jessore,² Dacca, Jalalpur,³ Mymensingh, Chittagong, Twenty-four⁴ Parganas, Hijili, Tamluk,⁵ Burdwan and Nadia have been directed to seize and confiscate all boats of the above descriptions, which may be found within the limits of their respective jurisdictions after the period abovementioned.

That any zamindar allowing any boats of the foregoing description to be built or repaired within the limits of his zamindari (unless by a written order of the Magistrate of the district) shall forfeit to the Government the village in which such boat shall be proved to have been built or repaired.

That the carpenter, blacksmith or any other artificer engaging for, or employed in, the building or repairing of boats of the descriptions above specified (unless by the express permission of the Magistrate of the district) shall be committed to close imprisonment in the *faujdari* jail for any period not above one month, or suffer corporal punishment not exceeding twenty strokes with a rattan. (CI 20, pp 476-7, no 81).

Jan. 15. 964. *Intelligence from the camp of Timur Shah.* It is reported that on 19 *Safar* (18 November 1788) Timur Shah, in response to the invitation of Raja Bijai Singh of Jodhpur arrived and encamped near Attock in order to subdue several refractory chiefs. It is further reported that he marched from there on 5 *Rabi* I (4 December 1788) and

¹ Ben. a boat for passengers or goods varying in length, having a tilted roof of bamboo, mats and thatch over the aft portion, usually rowed by two or four men, but carrying a mast and two sails, the most frequent boat in use on the Calcutta river.

² Town and district in Bengal.

³ *Pargana* in Faridpur District, Bengal. Formerly there was also a district called Dacca Jalalpur made up of Dacca, Faridpur and Bakarganj with headquarters at Dacca.

⁴ District in Presidency Division, Bengal.

⁵ Town and subdivision in Midnapore District, Bengal.

1789

halted on the road to Multan. His chiefs advised him to stay there some time and watch the situation and to act afterwards as circumstances require. He was encamped at the same place until 14 *Rabi*' I (13 December 1788). Two *qasids* were despatched from Peshawar with letters for the English and the Vazir and they are on their way to Lucknow. Several of the Sikh chiefs have assembled their troops and are under great alarm and intend to send their families to the hills. (*TR* 29, pp 40-1, no 33).

Jan. 16. 965. To Mirza Sultan Daud, Saliha Begam, Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan, Raja Tej Chand, Uttam Chand, Rani Bishan Kunwar, Harak Chand, Maharaja Udwant Chand, Maharaja Mahip Narayan Singh, Raja Bachhraj and Kunwar Daulat Singh. Thanks them for their congratulations on the occasion of Christmas. Appreciates this expression of their friendship but declines their *nazrs*. (*CI* 20, pp 478-9, no 82; *TI* 35, p 9, nos 17-27; *AR* 5, p 46).

Jan. 18. 966. From Rajaram Pandit. Acknowledges the receipt of his lordship's letter informing him that Mir Abul Qasim, a confidant of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan, will pass through his jurisdiction on his way to Calcutta. Says that agreeably to his lordship's wishes he has issued positive instructions to his officers to afford all possible facilities to the Nawab's *vakil* when he passes through their respective jurisdictions. Has not heard if the Mir has yet reached Ganjam. Assures his lordship that after making an enquiry he will inform him about it. Hopes to be honoured with frequent letters and commands. (*TR* 29, pp 41-2, no 34; *AR* 5, p 28).

Jan. 18. 967. From the Nizam. Duplicate of no 908 above. (*TR* 29, p 42, no 35).

Jan. 19. 968. Intelligence received from the Resident at Hyderabad, dated 1 January 1789. Among the property of Saif Jang, confiscated by the Nizam's government on account of (the non-payment of) the revenues of *sarkar* Guntur,

there are 7 elephants, 25 camels and 175 horses. For the remainder of the revenues it is proposed to sequestrate his *jagir* until the whole revenue be paid, allowing him a monthly salary of Rs 3,000 in specie. A letter from Seringapatam is received from Mir Abul Qasim's brother, Mir Zainul-Abidin,¹ who was formerly *Bakhshi* to Tipu Sultan, stating that Mir Baqir Ali Khan and about 30 other people who were suspected of carrying on a secret correspondence with the Governor of Madras and whose letters were intercepted at the ghats (Carnatic Balaghat), were summoned to the presence (of Tipu Sultan) and punished. It is further reported that an agreement has been entered into between Pandit Pardhan and Tipu Sultan stipulating that the former shall furnish a constant supply of 20,000 horse to the latter, and, in return, the latter engages to pay annually the amount of the *chauth* in specie. Five or six days ago a *kharita* containing three letters from Tipu, one addressed to the Nizam, the other to Mushirul-Mulk and the third to Imtiazud-Daulah,² was brought to His Highness (the Nizam) by two *qasids*. It is contrary to the established practice that a *kharita* for the Nizam should cover letters for the other persons who should receive their letters separately. The *kharita* was opened in the Nizam's presence and the letters were read. The letter which was addressed to the Nizam stated that Haidar Ali³ was ever bent on the ruin of the infidels and the advancement of the prosperity of the Mussalmans. But as he could not put his designs into execution during his lifetime, his son, Tipu Sultan, contemplated to fulfil the desire of his deceased father. The Nizam was therefore asked either to join him, if he was so inclined, or to remain a silent spectator

¹ Zainul-Abidin Shustari, younger brother of Mir Abul Qasim *alias* Mir Alam, minister of the Nizam. He was a brigadier in Tipu Sultan's army and also distinguished himself as a man of letters. He was commissioned by Tipu Sultan to write the famous "*Sultan-ut-Tawarikh*" or the "*King of Histories*". He died at Seringapatam during the siege in 1799.

² Another title of Mumtazul-Umara.

³ Ruler of Mysore, father of Tipu Sultan.

1789

of his actions. It was further stated that the surrender of Guntur to the English and the Nizam's connection with them were improper and that no advantage would arise to His Highness therefrom. If however the Nizam was bent, right or wrong, on a connection with them, he should inform him (Tipu) of every particular so that he may make his own arrangements accordingly. The other letters were to this purport that the counsels of the addressees were contradictory as they said one thing to him and another to the others. They should resolve firmly on one thing and then intimate it to him. (*TR* 29, pp 42-4, no 36).

- Jan. 20. 969. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Thanks him for his letter accompanying a present of twenty-five maunds of ice. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 479, no 83 ; *TI* 35, p 10, no 28 ; *AR* 5, p 45).
- Jan. 20. 970. To Babu Sarabjit Singh. Thanks him for his congratulations on the occasion of Christmas but declines his *nazr*. (*CI* 20, p 479, no 84 ; *TI* 35, p 10, no 29 ; *AR* 5, p 54).
- Jan. 21. 971. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his friendly letter expressing great pleasure on hearing that her Royal Highness (Qutlaq Sultan Begam) had been pleased to send, according to the established custom, a *shuqqa* and a *khil'at* to him. Says that on 19 *Rabi'* II (17 January 1789) Mian Ilahi Bakhsh arrived at Murshidabad and presented to him a *shuqqa* and a *khil'at* of a pair of shawls, a *qaba*¹ and a turban sent to him by the Begam. During the lifetime of his late Royal Highness (Jahandar Shah) when the writer was honoured with a turban, he went to the Farmanbari,² in accordance with the wishes of Mr Hastings and put it on there. Requests his lordship to advise him as to where he should

¹ P. a long gown with the skirt and breast open ; a garment ; tunic.

² This was the court of justice built by Shujaud-Daulah, Nawab of Bengal (1725-39). Ghulam Husain Salim : *Riyazus-Salatin*, p. 290.

1789

don the *khil'at*, either in the Farmanbari or in the fort and what *nazr* he should transmit to the Begam. Encloses a copy of the *shugqa* for his lordship's perusal.

Qutlaq Sultan Begam to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that at this time Mian Ilahi Bakhsh and Lala Makkhan Lal, who are her old and faithful servants, have been deputed to the presence of the Governor-General, Earl Cornwallis, with a present. And as the addressee is a well-wisher and faithful servant of her family she is pleased to bestow upon him a *khil'at* of a pair of shawls, a *qaba* and a turban. The Nawab should regard this as a mark of favour and should transmit 'arzi of respect to the presence. (*TR* 29, pp 44-5, no 37; *AR* 5, p 18).

Jan. 21. **972.** From the Raja of Dinajpur. Congratulates his lordship on the occasion of Christmas. (*TR* 29, p 45, no 38; *AR* 5, p 8).

Jan. 21. **973.** From Ram Kanta, *Diwan* of Dinajpur. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TR* 29, p 46, no 39).

Jan. 21. **974.** From Raja Kalyan Singh. In the case of Bhawani Singh, the Raja's brother *vs.* Shaikh Ahmad Husain, his lordship had directed Mr Bathurst¹ to examine their accounts and settle the dispute. Thereupon the defendant's *vakil* submitted two accounts of sundry receipts of the farmer of Bhawani Singh's taluk and Mr Bathurst credited the sums to Bhawani's account, without enquiring whether the receipts were actually made over to him or not. The gentleman further reported to the *Sadr Diwani Adalat*² that a sum of Rs 93,000 was recoverable from Bhawani Singh by the opposite party. At this an order was passed that Bhawani's *jaidad* should be sequestrated in order to liquidate the claim. Accordingly Mr Grand,³ Judge of the Patna *Adalat*, who is a patron

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 159, f. n. 4.

² Court of Appeal for civil cases at Calcutta.

³ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 371, f. n. 2.

1789

of Shaikh Ahmad Husain, has seized the Parchun *mahal* (belonging to Bhawani). This is not fair to Bhawani who never realised any amount from his taluk, having given it in farm to Ghulam Husain Khan. Requests his lordship therefore to direct Mr Law, Judge of the *Adalat* of Bihar, to investigate the case and settle it on an equitable basis. (*TR* 29, pp 46-8, no 40 ; *AR* 5, p 15).

Jan. 21. 975. To Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Complimentary reply, adding that he has been fully acquainted with the particulars which the Maharaja had entrusted to Bishambhar Pandit to be verbally communicated to him. Says that having duly weighed the important bearings of the questions discussed he has already expressed his views on them. Hopes that the Pandit will in due course communicate them to the Maharaja. The Maharaja must have learnt of the melancholy event that has happened in the family of Beniram Pandit (death of his wife and son). Since there is no resource against the decree of Heaven, he has written to him to bear this affliction with resignation. (*CI* 20, pp 303-5, no 7; *TI* 35, pp 10-11, no 30; *AR* 5, p 52).

Jan. 21. 976. *Advertisement*. Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals of contract for the following work in the Fort William will be received by the Secretary to the Government on or before 10 February 1789:—

I. For constructing 1,80,000 cubic feet of cunette wall and 12,000 cubic feet of other walls according to plans and sections which will be furnished by the Chief Engineer. The tenders should quote the rate for 100 cubic feet.

The contractor is to meet the expense of bailing out the water, clearing the foundations, and backing in the walls, after they are dried up; he should likewise remove the rubbish to the foot of the glacis, where a spot will be allotted for depositing the same. The expense of this is to be mentioned separately from that of the masonry.

II. For completely roofing the west or Royal Barrack, either with teak or with *sal* beams, double tyles of a foot square and terrace to be laid on nine inches, and beat till it is five inches in thickness.

All the windows of both the upper and lower barracks are to be cut down and opened to the floor, and fitted with seasoned teak valve windows, strongly framed.

The western partition walls of the bomb-proofs are to be removed and the whole of the western arcade of the lower barrack, as well as the northern and southern arcades of the upper barrack are to be fitted with seasoned teak valve windows strongly framed.

Two arches of the southern bomb proofs are to be cut open and arched. The floor of the western verandah is to be raised to the present height of the bomb-proofs, with brick on edge, and the whole of the floors of both the upper and lower barrack is to be completely repaired and newly painted and the walls are to be cleaned and put in order.

The windows and arcades, where the building has been struck by lightning, are to be taken down and rebuilt.

The number of beams required for the central part of the building, which is about 340 feet by 63 in area, will be nearly 336 of 22' \times 11" \times 9" and for the verandah nearly 40 beams of 17'-6" \times 10" \times 8".

The proposals should quote separately the price of teak and *sal* beams of the above dimensions. The contractor is to meet every expense for scaffolding, and all other contingent charges, and to remove the rubbish to a spot allotted at the foot of the glacis.

Plans, sections and schedule of the work will be placed at the Chief Engineer's office for the inspection of those persons who may desire to contract; and at the same office they may also see the musters of bricks and brick moulds, tyles and tyle moulds, valves for windows,

1789

valve hooks, lime, lime stone, *surkhi*¹, *khowa*², sand, etc : and no article of inferior quality or short measurement will be accepted.

III. To cut down to the terrace the windows of the Officers' quarters and arsenal barracks, and to fit the whole of them with best seasoned teak Venetian windows to open outward in strong frames with brass hinges, winch bolts, window hooks and all fittings complete. All expenses for masonry for fixing the frames, new plastering inside or out to be at the charge of the contractor who is also to remove the rubbish to a spot allotted for depositing it at the foot of the glacis.

In the north barracks there are 56 windows eleven feet by five from outside to outside of the wood work. In the south there are windows of the same number and size ; and in the arsenal 32 windows eleven feet by five.

The proposals must specify the difference in the cost of teak and *sal* frames for the windows.

The Government reserves to itself the option of having new windows put to the Officers' barracks, either immediately so that the whole may be completed on or before 15 April or else to postpone it till next October for which the proposals must provide accordingly.

The Chief Engineer will appoint proper person from the hour of eight in the morning till noon every day excepting Sundays, to show and explain the nature and extent of the work to be contracted for.

The mortar or cement for the masonry is to be composed as follows :—

Of the best new lime	.	.	.	100
Well burnt and fine screened <i>surkhi</i>	.	.	.	200
Best lump jaggery	.	.	.	1
			maunds	301

¹ P. brick-dust, pounded bricks.

² H. pieces of broken bricks.

1789

In case such a quantity of *surkhi* is not procurable in time, *surkhi* and well washed red sand may be used in equal quantities.

For arches, pointing and laying the tyles of the roof.

Best new lime	100
Fine sifted <i>surkhi</i>	100
Best lump jaggery	1
	<hr/>
maunds	201
	<hr/>

For plaster

Best fresh burnt lime	100
Best washed red sand	100
Jaggery	1
	<hr/>
maunds	201
	<hr/>

In all interior plaster and exterior ornaments the plaster is to be covered with a thin coat of stone lime, and over it another of fine shell, well rubbed and dried.

For terraces

Best fresh burnt lime	100 maunds.
Well burnt round <i>khowa</i>	100 maunds.

With a proper quantity of water, lime and other usual ingredients to be well soaked, mixed and beat together in trough for four days at least before it is carried upon the roof.

The beams and all the wood work are to be free from sap, cracks and all defects and to be of well seasoned timber.

The whole of the wood and iron work, to be painted over three times of a lead colour with oil and the best colours of European manufactures.

1789

The works are to be constructed under the special charge and superintendence of the Chief Engineer, who will nominate proper persons to assist him in superintending their progress; and if there be any differences with the contractor they are to be submitted to arbitrators whose decision shall be final.

An advance of one-third is to be made at the commencement of the work, one-third when half the work is finished and the remainder at the completion of it.

Two good and reliable securities are to be offered for the performance of the contract and named in the tender; and in case of failure, the contractor will be subject to a penalty of 25 per cent.

Half of the cunette wall is to be finished on or before 15 March next, and the remainder on or before 1 May.

The Royal Barrack is to be finished on or before 15 April. Dated Fort William 21 January, 1789. (*CI 26 pp 482-5, no 89*).

Jan. 22.

977. From the Teshu Lama¹. Says that about 20 years ago the Gurkhali Raja killed the Raja of Nepal and took possession of the whole country. He also ruined the other neighbouring Rajas. This year again in the month of *Ramazan* (May) he sent a large number of troops towards this quarter and by violence took possession of several fortresses of the country of Bhutan. He brutally massacred the inhabitants of these places and plundered all their effects. Near about Kuti² he plundered a place called Kouna which belonged to the writer. When the Chinese *subas*³, who are in Lhasa, heard of this incident they reported the matter to the Emperor of China. Is sure that the Emperor will soon send troops to punish the aggressor.

¹Chief of Buddhist Priests of Mongolia who lived at Teshu Lumbo in Tibet.

²This place is at the head of the Ni-lam Pass, forming one of the trade routes from Tibet to Nepal, down the valley of the Butia Kosi.

³P. governors.

1789

God alone knows what will be the plight of the ryots when the troops arrive. In order to save the ryots from this impending doom he was desirous of making peace with the Gurkhali and had sent an 'arzi to the Emperor of China (Kien-Lung)¹ requesting him to withhold sending his army. But the Raja's (Gurkhali's) intentions seem to be different and he does not abide by his engagements. The Lamaji Lhasa Wallah (Dalai Lama²) on learning of the Gurkhali's evil intentions wrote to the Raja Jumla Wallah to annihilate the aggressor. But the Jumla Wallah is not powerful enough to wage a successful war. So he (Teshu Lama) requests his lordship to send a large force against the Gurkhali Raja in order to annihilate him. In the meantime he (the writer) shall try to make peace with the said Raja. Requests his lordship not to give any military help to the Gurkhali. In case his lordship sends troops towards Nepal he should act as from himself and not as on behalf of the writer. The name of the writer and the correspondence that passes between them should be kept a secret because if it comes to light it may lead to his destruction. For further particulars, refers him to his two *vakils* whom he is sending to his lordship (with this letter). (*TR* 29, pp 48-52, no 41; *AR* 5, p 30).

¹ He succeeded to the throne in 1736. His army subdued Eastern Turkistan, including Kashgar, Yarkand, and Khotan, and annexed it to the Chinese Empire. In 1771 the famous flight of the Kalmuks settled on the banks of the Volga from Russian tyranny, took place. After suffering fearful hardships, they crossed the Kirghiz Steppe, and reached Chinese territory with their numbers reduced from 600,000 to 2,50,000. Kien-Lung provided for them with princely munificence, and they settled on the banks of the Ili. Kien-Lung also made an unsuccessful attempt to subdue Burma. He was more successful in Tibet, where in 1796, his troops defeated an invading Nepalese army, and his forces advanced to within twenty miles of Kathmandu. Kien-Lung abdicated in 1796, after a long and glorious reign of sixty years, and died in 1800. Markham: *Mission of George Bogle to Tibet*.

² Tibetan, *dalai*, ocean; *lama*, high-priest. The head of the Buddhist hierarchy in Tibet. He lives in the palace or monastery of Potala at Lhasa, Tibet.

1789

Jan. 22.

978. From Maharaja Chanzo Cusho¹, *Peshkar*² of Teshu Lama. Intimates that in pursuance of the Lama's orders two Kashmirians, Muhammad Rajab and Muhammad Wali have been sent to his lordship for the attainment of certain objects. They carry with them a letter from the Lama which contains the particulars of affairs of this quarter. Requests his lordship to comply with the requests of the Lama made in his letter and to give the said agents leave to return as soon as possible. Sends some presents for his lordship and hopes that these will be accepted. (*TR* 29, pp 52-3, no 42).

Jan. 23.

979. From Balaji Gobind Rao. Says that in 1168 *Fasli* (1760-I A. D.) the village of Khatimpur in *pargana* Aurory³ and in 1171 *Fasli* (1763-4 A. D.) the village of Ruema in *Pargana*....⁴ were allotted as *jagir* to Rao Bhiga Ram by a *sanad* from Raja Balwant Singh. These remained in the possession of the Rao's successors till the time of Raja Chait Singh. When Raja Chait Singh was expelled Mr Fowke gave them (the successors of Rao Bhiga Ram) a *parwana* under the seal of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh for the years 1191-2 *Fasli* (1784-5). They again obtained a *parwana* from Mr Grant for the years 1193-4 *Fasli* (1786-7) but due to the manipulation of the '*amils*' they could not obtain the possession of the lands. The writer represented the matter to Mr Duncan stating that the successors of Rao Bhiga Ram were the old adherents of the Company and so they should not be deprived of their *jagir* which they had in their possession for a long time. Accordingly Mr Duncan communicated all the particulars about the *jagir* to the addressee. Requests his lordship now to direct Mr Duncan to restore the said *jagir* to the original holders. Refers him to Bhagwant

¹ Maharaja Jahan Rao Kishore in the volume of translation is a misreading of the Persian text. Chanzo Cusho was the Regent of Teshu Lama during the latter's minority.

² P. deputy, clerk of the court.

³ Possibly Ahraura, *pargana* in Mirzapur District, United Provinces.

⁴ The name is not given in the volume of translations.

1789 Rao for further particulars. (*TR* 29, pp 53-4, no 43; *AR* 4, p 5).

Jan. 23. 980. From Dhiraj Narayan. Says that he is placed in confinement and is forbidden by the Council to go to Rangpur. He has much business to settle there and has to receive money from the people of that place. Requests permission to go to Rangpur for a period of 4 months to enable him to settle his affairs and begs also that a letter may be written to the Collector of Rangpur (D. H. McDowall)¹ directing him to assist the writer in realising his dues. (*TR* 29, p 54, no 44; *AR* 5, p 8).

Jan. 23. 981. *Deposition of Muhammad Husain, dacoit, inhabitant of Deolia in pargana Ratandi Kalikapur,*² *made before Henry Lodge*³ *at Backergunge*⁴ *on 14 January, 1789.* M. Wroughton appointed Shaikh Muhammad Hayat *girdawar*⁵ of the *Faujdari Adalat* in the month of *Sawan* and the latter nominated him to that office on his part. Accordingly he set out towards Lakshmipur⁶ accompanied by 650 people in 25 *palwars*⁷ and 4 *bahlis*. On his way to Lakshmi-

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII, p 184, f. n. 4.

² *Pargana* in Barisal District, Bengal.

³ Mr Henry Lodge was appointed by the Governor-General in Council in November 1788 as the Commissioner for suppressing robberies in Sunderbans and neighbouring districts. He fixed his headquarters at Backergunge and apprehended about 154 dacoits all of whom were made over to the *Darogha* of the Criminal Court of the place for trial. Muhammad Hussain, Ghaus Khan, Nabi Khan, Munir Khan and other *sardar* dacoits were sentenced to death; Muhammad Hayat and Ainud-Din Sikdar were sentenced to perpetual confinement and transported to Prince of Wales Island. Their properties were confiscated and sold in public auction, their heirs and relatives being debarred from purchasing them. Muhammad Hayat was the son of Faqir Muhammad of Doomki in *Pargana* Azimpore. Ainud-Din Sikdar was an influential *talukdar* and a partner of *tappa* shafipur.

⁴ Town in Backergunge District, East Bengal. Formerly it used to be the headquarters of the district which however were transferred to Barisal in 1801.

⁵ H. a patrol, a watch, a guard, a superintendent or inspector of police or customs.

⁶ Village in Noakhali District, Eastern Bengal, now a *Munsif's chauki*. There was formerly an English factory here.

⁷ H. a boat of burthen, of from 15 to 20 tons, employed for carrying goods, considered as originally of Dacca build.

1789

pur he raided certain villages, seized a number of dacoits (Mahabatullah, Muhammad Saidu, Malghazi, Sanaullah, Panahullah, etc.) and recovered money, arms and stolen property from their houses. He then reached Lakshmipur where he handed over the dacoits, the money and the effects which he had recovered from the houses of these dacoits to Ram Mohan, *Diwan* to the Shaikh. Later he seized another dacoit named Ghulam Haidar Chaudhri and sent him to Dacca. He also tried to track down Surat Singh and Golai Faqir in conformity with the orders of Muhammad Hayat but in vain.

Afterwards, during the months from *Jeth* to *Sawan* he at the instance of his master and accompanied by his *khansamah* and 40 other people, attacked the houses of Muhammad Hanif Chaudhri, Rabiullah, a *mahajan*, Sanaullah, etc., residing in different villages and plundered large sums of money and other valuable articles. Last year in the months of *Sawan*, *Bhadon* and *Aghan* he, accompanied by the same people, attacked and plundered a number of houses, belonging to certain zamindars, situated at different places in the neighbourhood of Lakshmipur. In the month of *Aghan* they went to the eastward and robbed money and other precious articles from the house of a zamindar, situated in the village of Dosskatta. This year in the month of *Sawan* Ainud-Din Sikdar with 27 men, Nabi Khan with his son, Zorawar Khan, and Khanjar Khan with his son and 27 men equipped with boats, etc., went to the village of Raipur¹ and attacked the house of a *fotadar*². He also accompanied them and they plundered large sums of money and a number of valuable ornaments and articles. The booty was divided among them. He then went to Barikaran³ and the others to their houses.

¹ Village in Noakhali District, Eastern Bengal.

² H. a banker, a cash keeper, a money changer, an officer in public establishments for weighing money and bullion, and examining and valuing coins.

³ Village in Backergunge District, Eastern Bengal.

1789

Further, says that he is a servant of Muhammad Hayat who asked him to go with his *Diwan*, Ram Mohan, his *khansamah*, Chandu Mian, and others to commit robbery. Accordingly he accompanied them to all the places, robbed and brought articles and money with him. At one time he gave Muhammad Hayat Rs 5,000 and at another Rs 20,000. The cook and all others who accompanied him in the village got their shares of booty. Hirde Narayan Roy, Zamindar of *pargana* Ratandi Kalikapur demanded Rs 2,000 from him and he gave him that sum. Has learnt from Rabiullah of Kulkatti in Salimabad¹ that Ghazi Muhammad Sher Ali and Muhammd Ali with 40 other people went to Backergunge in 3 boats, plundered the house of Ram Deo *fotadar* and carried off four or five thousand rupees. (*TR* 29, pp 55-61, no 45; *AR* 5, p 23).

Jan. 23.

982. To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has received her two letters. In one she sets forth her grievances against Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah (Akbar Ali Khan) who enticed away Prince Muzaffar Bakht with the intention of carrying him to the Deccan and expresses her satisfaction at the conduct of Mr Duncan and Ali Ibrahim Khan towards her. In the other she writes about the behaviour of Mubarak Mahal Begam towards Taj Mahal Begam and about the particulars relating to the nomination of the late Prince Jahandar Shah as the heir-apparent and presses the claims of Prince Khurram Bakht to succeed to his father's title. Says that he has transmitted a letter to her through Mian Ilahi Bakhsh from the contents of which as well as from the representation of Mr Duncan she will learn his views about the conduct of Nawab Mukarramud-Daulah who will assuredly soon meet with the proper reward for his behaviour. As regards the succession of Prince Khurram Bakht the Governor-General is sorry to say that he, being a friend and well-wisher of both the addressee and His Majesty, does not think it proper to

¹ *Pargana* in Backergunge District, Eastern Bengal. Kulkatti is a well known village.

1789

interfere in the matter and requests her therefore to let him remain neutral. Says that the respect consistently shown by the English to His Majesty and their friendship with all the chiefs of Hindustan have won them a good name for steadfastness to their friendship and engagements and that it was in pursuance of this policy that they kept themselves aloof during the present distracted state of the empire. Thank God that the rebel, Ghulam Qadir Khan, has met with the shameful fate he deserved and that His Majesty's mind has been set at rest by a reunion with his children. This event he hopes will restore perfect peace and unanimity in the royal family and by the exertions of His Majesty's faithful servants the throne may be restored to its wonted splendour. Refers her to Mr Duncan for further particulars.

P.S.—Sends a *nazr* of 51 gold mohurs which will be presented to her by Mr Duncan. Hopes that she will accept it. (*CI* 20, pp 305-8, no 8; *TI* 35, pp 11-14, no 31; *AR* 5, p 44).

Jan. 23. **983.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Is glad to hear that the Nawab has, agreeably to the established custom received a *shuqqa* and *khil'at* from Qutlaq Sultan Begam. In reply to the Nawab's query as to where he should formally put on the *khil'at* and what *nazr* he should transmit to the Begam, his lordship is of opinion that the Nawab should act in the same manner as has always been customary on these occasions. (*CI* 20, pp 479-80, no 85; *TI* 35, p 14, no 32; *AR* 5, p 45).

Jan. 24. **984.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has received a letter from Mr Speke stating that the late Nawab Jafar Ali Khan had borrowed a sum of Rs 22,76,016 from *Jagat Seth* to defray his expenses and that the accounts were settled at 21 lakhs of rupees in accordance with the orders of Lord Clive, of which the Company and the

1789

Nizamat were to pay half and half.¹ The Company discharged their share according to the agreement and a sum of Rs 5,25,000 out of the remaining half was paid from the *Nizamat* funds during the years 1173-7 B. S. (1766-70 A. D.). But since then not a single pie has been paid. Mr Speke has also intimated that as this sum has been outstanding for a long time and as *Jagat Seth* has now waived the interest that has been accruing he placed the claims of *Jagat Seth* before his lordship who has ordered that a sum of Rs 8,750 should be paid monthly from the *Nizamat* Stipends. In the end, the gentleman has desired the writer to communicate to him any objection or remark that he may wish to make on the proposal and to intimate how and when the money will be paid. Says that when the late Nawab (Mir Jafar) joined the English against the common enemy² the brothers and relations of *Jagat Seth* came out of their hiding places and throwing themselves upon his protection they paid him a sum of Rs 22,76,016 which was immediately distributed among the troops. They never claimed this amount as outstanding against the *Nizamat*. Nor did they mention this sum at the time when the *Nizamat* stipend was fixed. When Mr Hastings, at the advice of Mr D'oyly, formed a plan for the discharge of the debts of the *Nizamat*, Khush-hal Chand *Jagat Seth* did not ask for the payment of this sum. Afterwards when Mr Shore³ translated the *Nizamat* accounts and Mr Ives⁴ settled the mode of

¹ In 1776, Seth Khush-hal Chand and Seth Udwant Chand, sons of Mahtab Ray *Jagat Seth* and Maharaja Swarup Chand respectively, laid a claim before Lord Clive for between 50 and 60 lakhs of rupees as the amount advanced by their fathers to Nawab Mir Jafar for the support of the armies of the Nawab and the English. Lord Clive in consultation with General Carnac and Mr Sykes settled the claim at 21 lakhs to be paid in equal moieties by the Company and the Nawab within the space of 10 years.—*Bengal Past and Present*, vol. XXII, pp 100-1.

² Probably the reference is to the invasion of Bihar by Nawab Shujaud-Daulah and Prince Ali Gohar.

³ Mr Shore was deputed to Murshidabad in December 1786.

⁴ In June 1787 Mr Ives was deputed to investigate the receipts and disbursements of the *Nizamat* and to advise what retrenchments were necessary in order to provide for a specific fund for the payment of the just debts of the Nawab.

1789

paying off the arrears, this amount was not shown as payable to *Jagat Seth*. If a sum of Rs 8,750 is now paid monthly to *Jagat Seth* the affairs of the *Nizam* will be thrown into confusion in all its branches. Hopes that the Governor-General will reconsider his orders and thus relieve his (the Nawab's) anxiety. (*TR* 29, pp 61-3, no 46 ; *AR* 5, p 19).

Jan. 24. **985.** From Babbu Begam. Has received his letter expressing his joy on hearing about the forthcoming marriage of her grand-daughter and requesting her to see that no unnecessary expenses were incurred. His lordship has also expressed his anxiety regarding the discharge of the heavy debts incurred by the Nawab (Mubarakud-Daulah). Has also learnt further particulars from the 'arzi of Mir Kamalud-Din Husain Khan. Says that she is well acquainted with the addressee's endeavours to maintain the honour and dignity of the *Nizam* and also knows well how mindful he is of the Nawab's welfare and happiness. The Nawab is attending to the affairs of the *Nizam* and is constantly engaged in the liquidation of his debts after meeting the necessary expenses. He has formed a plan for the payment of his debts and has already paid off large sums of money and will continue to do so till the whole debt is discharged. The addressee is perfectly aware of the distressed situation of the *Nizam*, its heavy expenses and its scanty income. Nevertheless his lordship may rest assured that she and her son, the Nawab, will ever abide by his commands and will act according to his instructions. Depends solely upon the support of his lordship, the Council and the Company in all her affairs and assures him that she will try to conduct the affairs of the *Nizam* most economically. Hopes to be favoured with letters of welfare now and then. (*TR* 29, pp 63-6, no 47 ; *AR* 5, p 5).

Jan. 25. **986.** From Timur Shah. Says that it is well known to the world that when his father (Ahmad Shah Durrani)¹

¹ King of Afghanistan (1747-73).

1789

invaded India and conquered it he re-established Alamgir¹ II on the throne of Delhi and put the empire of Hindustan under his suzerainty once again. When King Alamgir II died and his son, Shah Alam, succeeded him his father extended the same patronage towards him also. On his (Ahmad Shah Durrani's) death the writer too adopted the same line of conduct towards Shah Alam. Has learnt that Ghulam Qadir Khan, the Rohilla, being forgetful of all favours shown to him by Shah Alam, has created havoc in Delhi and having deposed the King he has set up another person on the royal throne. Asks the addressee to exert his utmost to annihilate the rebellious Ghulam Qadir and his associates and to re-establish Shah Alam or his son, in case he shall have died, on the throne of Delhi. Commands him not to be dilatory in this respect as the events require immediate attention. Similar orders have been issued to all the English chiefs, to the Nawab Vazir, to the Marathas and to all other adherents of the royal House of Kabul. Desires him to intimate further particulars about the happenings there. (TR 29, pp 66-8, no 48; AR 5, p 30).

Jan. 25. 937. *Timur Shah to Sir John Macpherson.* To the same effect as the foregoing. (TR 29, p 68, no 49; AR 5, p 30).

Jan. 25. 938. From Haidar Beg Khan. Complimentary. (TR 29, p 69, no 50; AR 5, p 13).

Jan. 25. 989. From the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah). Complimentary. (TR 29, p 69, no 51; AR 5, p 32).

Jan. 27. 990. From the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah). Has received his lordship's letter mentioning that he has directed Mr Ives to pay the complimentary attention to the Prince (Shigufta Bakht) and enclosing a copy of the Prince's *shuqqa* addressed to his lordship together with a copy of his own reply to it. Is highly pleased to hear

¹ Mughal Emperor (1754-9).

1789

about his sincere attachment and loyalty to the Prince. Approves of the step taken by him and says that he also accompanied by Mr Ives, paid a visit to the Prince. (*TR* 29, pp 69-70, no 52 ; *AR* 5, p 32).

Jan. 27. **991.** From Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Is glad to receive his lordship's letter through Mr Ives recounting the services he had rendered to the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) on his arrival at Benares, notwithstanding the policy of non-intervention observed by the Company, and stating that he had induced the Nawab Vazir to show his ready compliance with his (Jahandar Shah's) commands and that when the late Prince was well assured of his lordship's candour and sincerity he totally relinquished the idea of ruling over Hindustan. He has further stated how after the death of the late Prince he had endeavoured to console the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan) whose mind was upset in consequence of the disorder and confusion caused by Mukarramud-Daulah (Akbar Ali Khan). His lordship has also expressed his disapproval of the writer's action in leaving Benares and coming to Lucknow, under which circumstances he (his lordship) had no alternative but to ask Mr Ives to desist from paying visits to the writer. Says in reply that his lordship is aware of the fact that after the death of the late Prince the evil conduct and intrigues of Mukarramud-Daulah reached such a stage that he found his life and property in danger. Young and inexperienced as he was, he paid no attention to the advice and entreaties of Mr Duncan and set out from Benares all alone and without the essential requirements of the journey. But he cannot refrain from commending the high character of Mr Duncan who, though he disapproved of his conduct, yet sent some elephants and horses after him on the road. Counts solely upon his lordship's support in all his affairs and says that he has been experiencing the severest affliction for the past four months. Expresses great satisfaction at the visit paid to him by Mr Ives and requests that the gentleman may be directed to see him often so that he may find relief from his solitude. (*TR* 29, pp 70-3, no 53 ; *AR* 5, p 20).

1789

Jan. 28.

992. From the Nawab of Arcot. Says that many a vain effort has been made by different chiefs of Hindustan, even by the King of Delhi and more especially by the Nizam, to induce the Nawab to break with the English. The first and the foremost object of the Nizam in sending a deputation to Calcutta was to ruin the affairs of the Nawab and to make false and malicious representations against him. Has learnt from a reliable source that the Nizam, with a view to injuring his reputation and causing a split in the Nawab's relationship with the English, has forged a letter under the writer's seal purporting to have been written by him to the Nizam stating that the Nawab was a subject and dependant of the Nizam but that the English, being superior in force, it was not in the Nawab's power to do anything. If he (the Nizam) would come down with a large army he would deliver over his country to him. Protests that these are the sinister designs of the Nizam and says that nothing is easier than to forge the seal. His seal too was engraved at Hyderabad and was sent to him by the late *Diwan* of the Nizam. By the grace of God he is an independent prince and an old faithful ally of the King of Great Britain. He knows it full well that his friends, the English, keep a formidable army to defend his country, that all forts are garrisoned with their troops and that he is so firmly protected and supported by them as to leave no room for fear from any quarter. Professes sincere friendship and attachment to his lordship and, to prove his sincerity, he is ready to attend in person or send his son to join any army of the Company that might be despatched to settle the affairs at Delhi.

P.S.—Says that the taluk Kurree¹ including the ghats has always been attached to his territory by virtue of the *farmans* from the Kings of Delhi. Since it is the high road to the Carnatic its possession by another (Tipu Sultan) has blocked up the country. The Nawabs of the Carnatic have at all times put some of their trustworthy officers in

¹ Probably a misreading of Kurpa, i.e., Cuddapah.

charge of the taluk. Since the time it has been in the hands of another power it has become difficult to meet the requirements of the country for horses, camels, cloth, sepoy, etc. Even the influx of pilgrims who visited Dowlutputty¹ annually has been stopped, thus occasioning a deficiency in the revenues of the taluk.

Has learnt that the Nizam intends to enter into a treaty with the English. Requests his lordship to bear in mind the stipulations of the treaty he formerly made with the Nawab. Hopes his lordship will not forget him at the time of concluding treaties and agreements that he may contract with the Nizam or any other power of Hindustan. (*TR* 29, pp 73-7, no 54; *AR* 5, p 33).

Jan. 28. 993. From Mir Abul Qasim. Says that he has been deputed by the Nizam to attend on his lordship at Calcutta in order to take part in the negotiations between the two governments (the Nizam and the Company) on his behalf. Is anxiously awaiting the happiest opportunity of meeting the Governor-General. He arrived at Ganjam² on 22 *Rabi* II (20 January 1789) and will shortly reach Calcutta. Encloses a *kharita* received from the Nizam addressed to his lordship. Will also communicate to him personally all about the particulars contained therein. (*TR* 29, pp 79-80, no 56).

Jan. 28 994. From Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Has received his lordship's letter in reply to his own relating to the surrender of Guntur *sarkar* and to the deputation of a confidential person at Calcutta. His lordship has stated that he is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the confidential person from 'this' quarter and has expressed his hope that through him the good understanding and intimacy between the two governments will be strengthened

¹ Tirupati in North Arcot District, Madras (?).

² Town in Ganjam District, Madras. Formerly it used to be the headquarters of the District and a seat of considerable trade and its factory and fort were presided over by a Chief and Council and protected by a garrison. Ganjam District is the northernmost district of Madras Presidency, lying along the shore of the Bay of Bengal.

1789

more firmly. Has also learnt further particulars from Capt. Kennaway. Says that he has deputed Mir Abul Qasim to carry on the negotiations on behalf of 'this' government. He will soon arrive at Calcutta and place his representations before his lordship. He will also communicate to him all the particulars relating to the arrears of the *peshkash*. Hopes that through his endeavours all important matters will be settled. Refers him to the letters of Capt. Kennaway and to Mir Abul Qasim for further particulars. (*TR* 29, pp 77-9, no 55).

Jan. 28. 995. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received a *shuqqa* from Timur Shah and encloses a copy of the same for his lordship's perusal. Requests the addressee to let him know his views on it so that he may send a reply to the Shah accordingly. Another *shuqqa* addressed to his lordship will be forwarded to him by Mr Ives.

Timur Shah to Nawab Asafud-Daulah. To the same effect as no 985 above. (*TR* 29, pp 80-1, no 57; *AR* 5, p 31).

Jan. 28. 996. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. To the same effect as no 989 above. (*TR* 29, pp 81-2, no 58; *AR* 5, p 31).

Jan. 28. 997. From Bhao Bakhshi. Has already written to his lordship about his departure from Lucknow. Has now safely arrived at the Maharaja's (Mahadaji Sindhia's) camp and paid his respects to him. His lordship will have learnt about the particulars of the capture of Ghulam Qadir Khan and others. Says that the Maharaja has gained a great victory over the rebel, Ghulam Qadir, who has now met with the punishment that he deserved. Congratulates the Governor-General as a friend of the Maharaja on this happy occasion.

The Maharaja has received a letter from Balaji Gobind Rao intimating that the latter has finished his pilgrimage at Benares and Gaya. As regards some of the pilgrims who have been left behind the writer has written a letter

1789

to Bhagwant Rao on this subject. Refers him to the Rao for particulars. Hopes to be honoured with letters.

Enclosure.—List of persons taken prisoners.

1. Ghulam Qadir Khan.
2. Manyar Singh.
3. Nazir Manzur Ali Khan.
4. Hakim Bu Ali Khan.
5. Bilas Ray.
6. Goslagir.
7. Najib Khan.
8. Khwaja Yaqub.
9. Shutur Khan.

(*TR* 29, pp 82-4, no 59; *AR* 5, p 4).

Jan. 28. 998. From the King (Shah Alam). Mir Ali Bakhsh, the preceptor to the Prince Mirza Muazzam Bakht, has taken leave of the Presence to return to his native country. He possesses 550 *bighas* of land in the province of Bihar and is entitled to a daily allowance of Rs. 2. Commends him to the favour of the Governor-General and asks the latter to issue orders to his officers to continue the daily allowance to the Mir and to restore to him the lands that he formerly possessed. (*TR* 29, p 84, no 60; *AR* 5, p 16).

Jan. 28. 999. From Faizun-Nisa Begam. Says that her father-in-law¹, Nawab Shahamat Jang, and her husband, Nawab Ikramud-Daulah, built a mosque and a college in Motijhil and placed them in the charge of Maulavi Muhammad Rabi. Some time after, both of them died and were buried in the college compound. After the death of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah, Nawab Sadiq Ali Khan² imprisoned her and her son, Nawab Muradud-Daulah, and sent them to Dacca. During their absence (from Murshidabad) Maulavi Muhammad Rabi nominated Muhammad Amin and Muhammad

¹ Shahamat Jang was the uncle of Ikramud-Daulah.

² Sadiq Ali Khan, better known as Miran, was the ferocious son of Mir Jafar Ali Khan, Nawab of Bengal. He was killed by lightning when asleep in his tent on the night of 2nd July 1760 A. D. —Walsh : *History of Murshidabad*.

Sana to look after the tombs and the college. After some time the Maulavi died and her son, Nawab Muradud-Daulah fell ill. Muhammad Amin and Muhammad Sana ignored her and became themselves the custodians of the mosque, college and the tombs. Since then they have been enjoying the allowance allotted to these trusts. But they have suffered the buildings and the mosque to fall into ruin. They have done no repairs to them but have utilised the income for their own advantage. As her son is still ill she cannot call them to account. Requests his lordship to issue an order to Mr Burges to restore the mosque, college, etc. to her so that she may get them repaired and superintend them herself. (*TR* 29, pp 85-6, no 61; *AR* 5, p 21).

Jan. 28. 1000. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 308-9, no 9; *TI* 35, p 14, no 33; *AR* 5, p 55).

Jan. 28. 1001. To Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Complimentary. (*CI* 20, pp 309-10, no 10; *TI* 35, pp 14-15, no 34; *AR* 5, p 42).

Jan. 29. 1002. From Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Says that Diwan Shivji Ram, one of his adherents, is proceeding to Prayag and Gaya on pilgrimage. Requests his lordship to direct the officers concerned to exempt him from all taxes and to see that he is safely escorted through their jurisdictions. Hopes to be favoured with letters of welfare now and then. (*TR* 29, p 86, no 62; *AR* 5, p 16).

Jan. 30. 1003. *Dastak* granted to Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan's relations and dependants who are going on boat from Benares to Murshidabad. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and *mustahfizan* on the way are directed to give them free passage. (*CI* 20, p 481, no 86).

Jan. 30. 1004. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Agreeably to his request the Governor-General has granted permission to Nawab Ziaud-Daulah

Karim Quli Khan to go to Lucknow for six months. (*CI* 20, pp 481-2, no 87; *TI* 35, p 15, no 35, *AR* 5, p 55).

Jan. 30. 1005. *Advertisement*.—Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals of contract will be received by the Secretary to the Government on or before 14 February for erecting upper rooms on the godowns to the northward of the house purchased from the Rev. Mr Johnson¹ by the Company, and for building some offices in the compound of the same. A plan and elevation of them may be seen at the Secretary's office. Dated Fort William, 30 January, 1789. (*CI* 20, pp 485-7, no 90).

Jan. 31. 1006. From the King (Shah Alam). Expresses his satisfaction at the consideration shown by the Governor-General to Qutlaq Sultan Begam since the death of her husband, Prince Jahandar Shah. Says that he has the same regard for the Begam as for the deceased Prince and therefore she deserves greater favour. She is passing her days in the utmost misery by allowing herself to remain at the tomb of the deceased Prince (at Benares). Asks the Governor-General to afford all possible facilities to her. (*TR* 29, pp 86-7, no 63; *AR* 5, p 15).

Jan. 31. 1007. *The King (Shah Alam) to the Resident at Benares*. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TR* 29, p 87, no 64; *AR* 5, p 23).

Feb. 2. 1008. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Landed property is of several kinds:

1. Any person may clear jungle land, bring it under cultivation and pay the revenue for it to the sovereign.

2. Any person may purchase the zamindari or *taâl-luqdari* of another for a consideration and pay the revenue to the sovereign.

¹ William Johnson was appointed Junior Chaplain in 1772 and became Senior Chaplain in 1784. He returned to Europe in 1783.—*Bengal Past and Present*, vol. XXVIII.

3. The proprietor of a piece of land may make a gift of his property to another person who thereafter pays revenue to the sovereign.

4. The proprietor of a piece of land dying without an heir, the sovereign or his deputy may give the zamindari or *taálluqdari* of it to another person who thus becomes the proprietor and pays revenue to the sovereign.

In these kinds of zamindari and *taálluqdari* the laws of inheritance, property, sale, purchase and donation have been observed in this country from the dawn of civilisation. The kings and rulers have never alienated or taken away such zamindaris and *taálluqdaris* except as punishment for capital offences, such as rebellion, disobedience and sedition, because the king or the ruler is the proprietor of the revenue and the zamindar and *taálluqdar* that of the land. Kings or rulers have to purchase lands from the zamindar even for their own burial. If any zamindar or *taálluqdar* is incapable of collecting and paying the government revenue, he receives an allowance called *malikana* and *nankar*¹ and another person is appointed by the government to look after the land and to realise the revenue.

5. If a zamindar or *taálluqdar* has been guilty of rebellion or disobedience or sedition the sovereign dispossesses him and bestows his zamindari upon another. If the sovereign has granted the successor a *sanad* for the zamindari, the proprietary rights and the zamindari privileges belong to him as long as he enjoys its possession. But after a lapse of time the sovereign may restore the land to the heirs of the dispossessed zamindar or *taálluqdar*. Whatever act of sale or donation the person, who held the zamindari by virtue of the *sanad* of the sovereign, may have performed during the period he was in possession, cannot be reversed or nullified.

6. In cases where any person may have possessed himself of the zamindari or *taálluqdari* of another by

¹ P an assignment of land for subsistence.

1789

force and violence, it is in the option of the sovereign to dispossess the usurper and restore the land to the heirs of the original proprietor.

7. It has been from the earliest period customary for the king or ruler to grant *jagirs*, *altamghas*, *madadi-ma'ash*¹ and other charitable grants from the zamindari lands. The proprietor of the land can exercise no authority in such grants but he receives the *malikana* and *nankar*.

8. The office of zamindari which is bestowed by a *sanad* is not like that of a farmer or a functionary. The former possesses the proprietary rights of the lands and hence no alienation or deprivation can take place except as a punishment for capital offences while the office of a farmer or a functionary carries no proprietary rights and hence alienation and deprivation are allowed. A big zamindar is called a *raja*, while petty zamindars are called zamindars or *chaudhris*. In a *raj* there is but one *raja* and several zamindars, while in a zamindari there are several *ta'alluqdars*.

Similarly *ta'alluqdari* is also of several kinds:—

1. A zamindar procures a *sanad* from the sovereign for waste and uncultivated land, which is not included in the *jamá* and of which there is no owner. He then grants *pattas* of *ta'alluqdari* to several persons who exert themselves in improving the condition of the land, spend money over it and bring it under cultivation. They pay the revenue to the zamindar who is entitled to receive it. The *ta'alluqdar* is however the proprietor of the land and has the right to sell and donate it.

2. When a *ta'alluqdar* sells out his hereditary *ta'alluqa* or a village in his zamindari the purchaser becomes the proprietor of the lands and enjoys the privilege of

¹ A. an assignment of revenue for the support of learned or pious Muhammadans.

selling and donating them. The zamindar and the sovereign are to receive the revenue only.

3. If a zamindar bestows lands upon anyone and makes him his *taállugdar*, the latter becomes the proprietor of the lands and can sell or donate them. The zamindar is entitled to receive the revenue only.

4. If the zamindar, while granting a *taállugdari patta* to anyone for lands that were formerly cultivated, gives him also the right of selling and donating them and expressly mentions this in the *patta*, then only can the *taállugdar* enjoy this right, otherwise not. (OR 1; TR 29, pp 87-91, no 65; AR 5, p 21).

Feb. 2. 1009. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Sends a present of ice. (OR 2; TR 29, p 91, no 66; AR 5, p 21).

Feb. 2. 1010. From the *qanungos*, zamindars, *chaudhris* and *taállugdars* of Rangpur District, Bengal. Addresses in favour of Mr Hastings. (OR 3).

Feb. 2. 1011. From Nawab Munirud-Daulah. Congratulates him on the occasion of Christmas. (TR 29, p 91, no 67; AR 5, p 22).

Feb. 3. 1012. *The merchants of Balasore to W. Wodsworth.* Have learnt that Lawrence DaCosta, a clerk, has lodged a complaint before the Chief of the Dutch factory¹ at Chinsurah that the *horis*¹ of Devmahal² (Maldive vessels) visit the port of Balasore through his agency² but the men of the English factory of that port, having bribed the *Faujdar* of Balasore, have taken over this business from his hand. Say that the complaint is false and devoid of truth. They know that the Maldive vessels have been visiting this port under the protection

¹ H. a boat formed of a hollowed tree; a canoe; a small flat bottomed boat; a raft.

² Devmahal appears to be a corruption of Sanskrit, Dvip Malaya, i.e., Maldive.

of the English for a long time past. They (the owners of these vessels) are businessmen. Whoever affords them protection they transact their business through him. They depend on the English to such an extent that they pay their duties to the Maratha Government through them (the English). It is understood that the said Lawrence DaCosta had offered a sum of Rs 150/- by way of bribe to the *Faujdar*, but neither the *Faujdar* nor the *Subadar* countenanced him. Say that but for the protection afforded by the English Factory, neither the *horis* would visit this port nor would anybody reside there. As soon as the aforesaid *horis* arrive at Balramgarhi Ghat¹, where an English Factory is situated, the sepoy of the Factory at Balasore go up to the *ghat*² and bring the vessels safely to port. On the return voyage, they similarly escort them up to Balramgarhi Ghat in order that none of the Marathas (petty officers of the Maratha Government) might interfere with these boats. (OR 4).

Feb. 3. 1013. *Parwana* issued by Rajaram Pandit. Be it known to the *Faujdar* and zamindars of *chakla* Balasore that the *horis* of Devmahal (Maldiva) visit the port of Balasore for trade from a very long time under the protection of the English Factory situated there. Now other *sahukars*³ and *mahajans* of that place are obstructing their business. It is therefore ordered that their trade should be carried on through the agency of the English Factory in the same manner as formerly. Nothing should be done against the established practice and every protection should be afforded to the *nakhudas*⁴ of those vessels. (OR 5).

Feb. 3. 1014. From the Nawab of Dacca. Is greatly pleased to receive his lordship's letter in answer to his own relating

¹ Situated 9 miles east of Balasore near the mouth of the Bura-balang.

² H. landing place on the bank of a river ; quay or wharf where customs are commonly levied.

³ H. banker, money-lender.

⁴ P. captains of ships.

1789

to the marriage of his brother, Shamsud-Daulah Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan. Says that he is leaving for Murshidabad with his brother today, 7 *Rabi' II*, 1203 A.H. (5 January 1789 A. D.) and on his arrival there will write to his lordship. Hopes to be honoured with friendly letters. (*OR 6 ; TR 29, pp 91-2, no 68 ; AR 5, p 9*).

Feb. 3. 1015. From the Nawab of Dacca. Has already informed his lordship of his departure for Murshidabad. He reached there on 27 *Rabi' II* (25 January 1789 A.D.). The day for the celebration of the wedding has not yet been fixed. An intimation will be given to his lordship when it is settled. (*OR 7 ; TR 29, p 92, no 69 ; AR 5, p 9*).

Feb. 4. 1016. From the widow of Lachhmi Narayan Ray, *Qanungo*. Says that conformably to her desire Kishan Chand Ray was appointed the *naib* of *pargana* Rokanpur. During a period of two years he totally ruined her affairs. In the beginning of 1195 B. S. (1787-8 A.D.) she requested the Collector as well as the Board of Revenue to dismiss him but to no effect. She then addressed several petitions to the Council, one of which respecting the scrutiny of his accounts, was referred to the *khalisa*. Kishan Chand, on learning this, is exercising great oppressions on her servants. She repeatedly complained to the Collector against his atrocities, but to no avail. Has not received a single rupee from the said *pargana* for her household expenses and is consequently in distress. Hopes that his lordship will do her justice and direct the Board to provide her with the household expenses and to dismiss Kishan Chand. (*OR 8 ; TR 29, pp 92-3, no 70 ; AR 5, p 33*).

Feb. 4. 1017. From Lutfun-Nisa Begam. During the time when the four grand daughters of the late Nawab Sirajud-Daulah were unmarried an allowance of Rs 600 was fixed jointly for them and herself from the *chakla* of Dacca. Now as they are married and have families this allowance does not suffice for the subsistence of all of them. She

cannot help them with money as she is distressed for her own expenses. Depends solely upon his lordship's favour. Says that Mirza Muhammad, who is married to one of the granddaughters of the late Nawab, has set out to Calcutta to see his lordship in the hope that a suitable allowance will be fixed for his subsistence. Commends him to his lordship's favour. (OR 9; TR 29, p 93, no 71; AR 5, p 17).

Feb. 4. 1018. From Rajaram Pandit. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter. Some time ago it was communicated to him that Mir Abul Qasim, who has been appointed by the Nizam to negotiate with his lordship, arrived at Bijainagar. He must have reached Manakpatam¹ by this time. A great scarcity prevails in this quarter (Cuttack) in consequence of inundation. Is encamped near the fort of Khurda² with a large army of horse and foot to make the settlement with several rajas. When the Mir arrives here, he will pay him all the respect due to his station. (OR 10, TR 29, p 94, no 72; AR 5, p 28).

Feb. 4. 1019. Fateh Singh, Gaikwar of Baroda, to his wakil Swarup Ram. Has already sent an answer to his arzi accompanied by letters for the English chiefs at Calcutta. Is anxious to receive answers to those letters and the Government's decision with regard to the restoration of *pargana* Broach. A period of one year has elapsed since the addressee was sent to Calcutta³ but no favourable report has been received so far from him. If affairs were in any way favourable he should certainly have heard something of it. If through his exertions the desired object can be achieved, he should procure a letter from the authorities at Calcutta in the name of the Peshwa

¹ Probably Manikpatna, town in Puri District, Orissa.

² Town with fort (now in ruins) in Puri District, Orissa. Hoor-dah, in the vol. of translations is obviously a misreading of the Persian text.

³ Swarup Ram was deputed to Calcutta in 1787. Vide *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII.

to this purport that the writer's share of *pargana* Broach may be released in his favour and that at the time of surrender there may not be any disturbance. Another letter for the writer should also be procured so that he may take possession of his share of the said *pargana*. (OR 11 ; TR 29, pp 94-5, no 73 ; AR 5, p 12).

Feb. 4. 1020. From Saadat Ali Khan. Says that he reached Bishnupur on 25 *Rabi* II (23 January 1789 A. D.). Is now proceeding towards Benares. Has learnt from the letters received from Benares that the zamindars residing in the neighbourhood of the *ramna*¹, which is situated adjacent to Durgakund and has been in the possession of the writer for the past seven or eight years according to the orders of Mr Hastings, are lodging complaints and creating disturbances. Has already represented full particulars of the situation. During the time of Raja Chait Singh a piece of uncultivated land was reserved by him for deer hunting. When the Raja was expelled, the writer took possession of this land with Mr Hastings' permission. Not a bit of it is cultivated, which could offer any prospects of revenue. Hopes the Governor-General will be kind enough to write a letter to Mr Duncan that he may prevent the zamindars, residing in the neighbourhood of *ramna*, from unjust interference in a possession of seven or eight years' standing. As he is very fond of hunting, requests his lordship to continue the land to him so that he may keep himself occupied, otherwise his time will hang heavy with him. (OR 12 ; TR 29, pp 95-6, no 75 ; AR 5, p 27).

Feb. 4². 1021. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter accompanying a present of ice through Hikmat Maab Khan. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (CI 20, p 482, no 88 ; TI 35, p 15, no 36 ; AR 5, p 46).

¹ H. a place to walk or sport in, a part reserved (for game).

² February 7, according to the vol. of abstracts.

1789

Feb. 5.

1022. From Diwan Shitji Ram. Having been permitted by Maharaja Pratap Singh to perform the pilgrimage of Gaya and Jagannath, has arrived at Allahabad by the way of Lucknow. The Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah) has been kind enough to grant him letters and a guard which enabled him to pass through his territory without any trouble. As he has now arrived in his lordship's jurisdiction, requests him for an escort and a letter of exemption from duties for 400 persons so that he might make the pilgrimage comfortably. Refers him to Rai Ram Singh for further particulars and hopes that due regard will be paid to his representations. Will stay at Patna until he receives the letter of exemption. (OR 13; TR 29, pp 96-7, no 75; AR 5, p 29).

Feb. 5.

1023. From Balaji Gobind Rao. During his stay at Benares, he was very friendly with Rao Ganesh Rao who has now retired from public life. Some time ago Mahadaji Sindhia wrote to his lordship about him. Says that the allowance granted to him by the Vazir has now been discontinued. Requests him therefore to prevail upon the Vazir to get his *tankhwah* continued to him and to direct Mr Ives to prevent any impediment in the regular payment of his *tankhwah* in future. Further, says that a village called Ghaibipur in *pargana* Saidpur¹ had been in the possession of Ganesh Rao as an *altamgha* grant since the time of Raja Balwant Singh. A month ago Ausan Singh laid claim to this village as belonging to his *jagir*. Hopes that the Governor-General will be pleased to write to Mr Duncan to make a strict enquiry into this matter and to settle it. Refers him to Bhagwant Rao for further particulars. (OR 14; TR 29, pp 97-8, no 76; AR 5, p 5).

Feb. 7.

1024. From the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah). Acknowledges the receipt of a present of two *katars* and expresses thanks for them. (OR 15; TR 29, p 98, no 77; AR 5, p 31).

¹ *Pargana* in Ghazipur District, United Provinces.

1789

Feb. 7. 1025. From Hasan Riza Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 16 ; TR 29, p 98, no 78 ; AR 5, p 13).

Feb. 7. 1026. From Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect. (OR 17 ; TR 29, p 98, no 79 ; AR 5, p 13).

Feb. 7. 1027. *Dastak* granted to Diwan Shivaji Ram, a confidant of Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh, who is proceeding from Jaipur on a pilgrimage to Gaya, Baidyanath¹, Jagannath, etc. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to see that he is in no way obstructed on the way. (CI 20, p 488, no 91).

Feb. 8. 1028. Intelligence² from Hyderabad, dated 19 January 1789 A. D.

13 *Rabi* II (11 January).—Mushirul-Mulk and Imtiazud-Daulah wrote answers to the letters received from Tipu Sultan and despatched them to him through the latter's messengers.

14 *Rabi* II (12 January).—Ammunition has been despatched to the forces of Saiyid Umar Khan *Bakhshi* and Jamal Muhammad Khan *Bakhshi* stationed with Raja of Chinnur³. Fourteen hundred cannon shots and 96 maunds of gunpowder have been sent to Saiyid Umar Khan and 500 cannon shots and 24 maunds of gunpowder to Jamal Muhammad Khan.

15 *Rabi* II (13 January).—It is reported that Hafiz Faridud-Din Khan arrived at Seringapatam on 1 *Rabi* II (30 December 1788 A. D.). He is staying in the city according to the orders of Tipu Sultan, who has stationed 50 men with him so that his people may not walk about in the city and has sent him a present of Rs 500 for table expenses. On the 5th of the same month the Khan delivered the presents he had brought from the Nizam to the Sultan. Tipu Sultan will go out for tiger hunting

¹ Temple in Deogarh, Santal Parganas, Bihar.

² Enclosure from the Resident.

³ Town and *talûqa* in Adilabad District, Hyderabad.

four days hence. He proposes to send Mons. Lally with an army of 15,000 horse towards Cuddapah¹.

16 *Rabi* II (14 January).—News arrived from Poona that there had been an engagement between Rana Khan and Ghulam Qadir Khan and that the latter had fled but was overtaken with all the booty he had plundered from Delhi. Mirza Akbar Shah with about 22 other princes arrived safely in the Maratha camp and 27 Rohilla *sardars* were made prisoners. Sindhia desires to send Ghulam Qadir to Poona. On hearing this news, the Peshwa was much pleased and ordered a salute to be fired. Govind Rao² and Sobraji Pandit are to be deputed as *vakil*s with the Nizam at Hyderabad. The Peshwa wrote to the Nizam that he was overjoyed to hear the news from Delhi and had fired a salute on the occasion and desired the Nizam to do the same, which was done the next day. The Nizam ordered Muhammad Amin to hasten to his *taluk* and to collect two lakhs of rupees in order to meet the note of hand of Munavvar Khan³ of Kurnool.

17 *Rabi* II (15 January).—It is reported that the Raja (of Chinnur) attacked the fortress of Chinnur, but the zamindar of that place resisted with the result that 40 men of the latter were killed and 100 were wounded.

18 *Rabi* II (16 January).—News arrived that an army of two thousand horse and foot had set out from Golconda towards Chinnur to assist the Raja. They have been instructed to hasten to that place but to pretend as if they were going to Hyderabad.

19 *Rabi* II (17 January).—News arrived that on learning that there was a great scarcity of food in the camp of the Raja (of Chinnur) Rao Bharamal obtained

¹ Kirpah, according to the vol. of translations.

² Obviously Govind Krishna Kale.

³ Nawab of Kurnool (1752–92).

an agreement from the *banjaras*¹ (for the supply of grain) and set out towards Chinnur with three thousand oxen laden with provisions.

20 *Rabi'* II (18 January).—It is reported from Chinnur that the said zamindar (of Chinnur) made a night-attack on the army of the Raja and two hundred of his men were killed and wounded. Later advice was received from Nagpur that Raghuji Bhonsla and Chimnaji intended to go to Poona at the call of the Peshwa. The Peshwa will probably go to Satara² with Raghuji Bhonsla to attend the wedding ceremonies of one of the children of the Raja of that place. The Nizam proposes to send a *khilat* of condolence to the Nawab of Arcot on account of the death of his son.

The situation of the Nizam's court, where dissensions prevail among the *umara* is beyond description. Imtiazud-Daulah has allied himself with Shamsul-Mulk and consequently opposes Mushirul-Mulk. He has poisoned the Nizam's ears against Mushirul-Mulk and has frequently represented to him (the Nizam) that it is improper to place any confidence in him, for there can be no hope of advantage or prosperity to the government from him. The Nizam now and then during conversation suggests by innuendo that Mushirul-Mulk is an ungrateful wretch (*namak-haram*) and has given positive orders to the *harkaras* stationed at his house to report every bit of the most secret intelligence that they can obtain about him. Mushirul-Mulk has twice or thrice requested the Nizam to honour him with his company at the *maktab*³

¹ H. the term is most usually applied to grain and cattle merchants, who move about to different markets and especially accompany bodies of troops to supply them with corn.

² Town and district in the Bombay Presidency, with a strong hill-fortress fifty-six miles south of Poona. It was taken from the sovereign of Bijapur in 1651 by Sivaji, the founder of the Maratha Empire, and it was here that his descendants lived as state prisoners during the Peshwas' ascendancy.

³ A feast given by the parents when a child is first sent to school; *maktāb*—school.

1789

of his daughter but his request was not complied with.
(*OR* 18 ; *TR* 29, p 99-101, no 80 ; *AR* 5, p 14).

Feb. 10. **1029.** From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Says that his lordship is well acquainted with her woeful situation. Her mind is uneasy to a degree beyond expression on account of her heavy expenses and scanty income. Requests an order to Mr Duncan asking him to pay her a further sum of Rs 1,000 a month in order to make up the full amount of Rs 1,2000¹ (which she used to receive formerly). By this means only can her embarrassments be removed.

P.S.—In the Begam's own hand. Has written a *shugga* to the Nawab Vazir for advice. Depends solely upon his lordship's support. Says that she wrote an *arzi* of congratulation to the King and that she has received a *shugga* from him addressed to his lordship. Sends it through Mr Duncan. Requests that the answer to His Majesty's *shugga* may be transmitted through her. (*OR* 18 A ; *TR* 29, p 101, no 81 ; *AR* 5, p 16).

Feb. 11. **1030.** To Sadasheo Rao Malhar. Acknowledges the receipt of his two letters informing him that after taking leave of the Nawab Vazir, he departed from Lucknow and has now safely arrived at the Maharaja's (Mahadaji Sindhia's) camp and congratulating the Governor-General as a friend of the Maharaja on the victory gained by the latter over the rebel, Ghulam Qadir Khan. With regard to the request of the addressee for granting exemption from Gaya duties to some of the followers of Balaji Gobind Rao the Governor-General refers him to Bhagwant Rao. Has written to Balaji Gobind also on this

¹ Prince Jahandar Shah received an allowance of Rs 25,000 a month. After his death Rs 17,000 was fixed for Qutlaq Sultan Begam and family. When Mirza Shigufta Bakht left her protection and went away to Lucknow a sum of Rs 5,000 was separated from her allowance and paid to the Mirza. So she was left with Rs 12,000. This was further reduced by Rs 1,000 after the departure of Mirza Muzaffar Bakht from her household.—*Secret & Political Proceedings.*
1 December 1788 and 13 February 1789.

subject. (*CI* 20, pp 311-12, no 12 ; *TI* 35, pp 15-16, no 38 ; *AR* 5, p 36).

Feb. 11. 1031. To Mir Abul Qasim. Has received his letter together with a *bharita* from Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Is pleased to learn that the addressee has safely arrived at Ganjam on his way to Calcutta. Will be glad to see him 'here'. (*CI* 20, pp 313-14, no 13 ; *TI* 35 ; p 16, no 39).

Feb. 11. 1032. To the Nawab of Arcot. Has received his letter saying that many a vain effort has been made by different chiefs of Hindustan, and specially by the Nizam to induce the Nawab to break with the English. The Nawab also says that he has learnt from a reliable source that the Nizam, with a view to injuring his reputation and causing a split in the Nawab's relations with the English, has fabricated a letter under the addressee's seal purporting to have been written by him to the Nizam inviting him to take possession of his country. The Nawab therefore protests against these sinister designs of the Nizam, and by way of displaying his sincerity and attachment for the English, he is ready to attend in person or send his son to join any army of the Company that might be deputed for the arrangement of the affairs at Delhi. Says in reply that he is pained to learn of the Nawab's apprehensions as he is convinced of the sincere friendship of the Nawab. Assures him that no amount of effort on the part of any chief of Hindustan will ever succeed in effecting a breach between the Company and their old friend, the Nawab. (*CI* 20, pp 314-16, no 14 ; *TI* 35, pp 16-18, no 40 ; *AR* 5, p 56).

Feb. 11. 1033. To Saiyid Ali Khan, Nawab of Dacca. Is glad to learn that he has reached Murshidabad in order to celebrate the marriage of his brother, Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan. Prays that he may accomplish his object successfully. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 488-9, no 92 ; *TI* 35, p 18, no 37 ; *AR* 5, p 40)

1789

Feb. 13.

1034. From Saiyid Kamalud-Din Husain Khan, *vakil* of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has received a letter from the Nawab saying that it is a long established custom that when the French gentlemen arrive at their factories they address an *arzi* to the Nawab, who in reply addresses them as *Zubdatut-tujjar*¹ so and so. This time Mons. Montigny, on his arrival at Chandernagore², has written a letter to the Nawab addressing him in a style contrary to the established custom³. Says that the Nawab has forwarded the letter to the writer with instructions to place it before his lordship and to point out the style, address and language of it. Encloses the letter for his lordship's perusal and desires to know the manner in which the reply should be given to that gentleman.

Mons. Montigny to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Intimates that having been appointed to the office of the Governor-General of the factory at Chandernagore and of the other factories in the *subas* of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, he arrived on 29 *Rabi*' II (27 January 1789 A. D.) at Chandernagore and took charge of his office. Hopes to be honoured with frequent letters. (*OR* 19 and 20 ; *TR* 29, pp 101-3, no 82 ; *AR* 5, p 19).

Feb. 13.

1035. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his three letters. In the one the Nawab has enclosed a copy of the letter which he has received from Timur Shah and has requested the Governor-General to let him know his views on it so that the Nawab may send a reply to the Shah accordingly. In the other two letters, he deals

¹ A. cream of the merchants ; best of the traders.

² French settlement on the bank of the Hooghly, above Calcutta, a short distance below Chinsura.

³ The letter was written in a friendly style. The form of address used was : *Nawab Sahib Mushfiq Mihrban* i.e., Nawab Sahib, affectionate and kind friend. When this representation was submitted to the Governor-General he verbally told the Nawab's *vakil* that if Mons. Montigny had deviated from the established practice it was probably due to his want of knowledge of the mode of correspondence in Bengal where he was newly arrived. The Nawab could write to Mons. Montigny about this if he thought it proper.—*Foreign Department, Foreign Branch Proceedings, 20 March 1789.*

with the affairs of Prince Mirza Shigufta Bakht and expresses his gratification at the withdrawal of his previous orders on Mr Ives to withhold paying formal visits to the Prince. Says in reply that the Governor-General has also received a letter from the Shah on the same subject as has been received by the Nawab. Encloses a copy of the letter¹ which he has sent in reply to the Shah for the Nawab's perusal. (CI 20, pp 310-11, no 11; TI 35, pp 18-20, no 41; AR 5, p 55).

Feb. 13. 1036. To Timur Shah. Has received his royal *shugqa* expressing his greatest indignation at the rebellious conduct of Ghulam Qadir Khan, the Rohilla, who forgetful of all favours shown him by Shah Alam created havoc in Delhi and who, having deposed the Emperor, raised another person to the throne. He therefore asks the Governor-General to exert his utmost to reinstall Shah Alam and, in case he shall have died, to place his son on the imperial throne. Says in reply that the traitor has since met with the infamy and punishment which he deserved for his ungrateful conduct and that His Majesty Shah Alam has been re-established on the throne of his ancestors. The Shah must have by this time learnt of all the particulars and so he refrains from recapitulating them. Hopes to be honoured with the royal commands every now and then. (CI 20, pp 316-20, no 15; TI 35, pp 20-22, no 42; AR 5, p 54).

Feb. 14. 1037. From Babu Bhup Narayan Singh. Has already informed his lordship of the articles of agreement, which his brother, Raja Mahip Narayan Singh, entered into with him. Requests the Governor-General to address a letter to Mr Duncan asking him to see that he is restored to his rights in terms of the agreement. (OR 21; TR 29; p 103, no 83, AR 5, p 5).

Feb. 14. 1038. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter in reply to her *shugqa*.

¹ Vide the next letter.

1789

saying that the conduct of fidelity and respect towards the king and the system of friendship and unanimity towards all the chiefs of Hindustan observed by the Company are well-known to the world, that Ghulam Qadir has met with the punishment due to his conduct, and has been taken prisoner by the troops of the well-wishers and servants of the King and that the King has had the happiness of a reunion with his sons. Says that the respect and attachment shown from the very beginning to His Majesty by the English are 'as evident as the sun', and that the kindness shown to the late Prince (Jahandar Shah), and after his death to those whom he left behind, is perfectly known. She and her son, Mirza Khurram Bakht, have no other support than that of God and his lordship. The late Prince had a great respect for his father, the King, and in pursuance of His Majesty's orders repaired to the royal presence without delay or hesitation. On his arrival there, owing to the enmity of his brothers he did not receive any favour from His Majesty and returned to 'this' quarter. Is gratified to learn from the newspapers that kingship has been restored to His Majesty. As she depends solely upon his lordship's support, requests that he will watch her interests and see that Mirza Khurram Bakht is not deprived of his inheritance. Accepts the *nazr* of 51 gold mehurs sent by his lordship through Mr Duncan as a token of friendship. (OR 22; TR 29, pp 103-5, no 84; AR 5, p 16).

Feb. 14.

1039. From Raghuji Bhonsla. Says that Brahm-murat, *Bab Bhat*¹, and Sriman, two *purohits* of 'this' quarter are going on a pilgrimage to Allahabad, Gaya and Benares. They have with them 25 *chaupalas*², 220 persons and 100 ponies. Requests that the party may be afforded all possible facilities on the way and at the places of pilgrimage. Refers him to Bishambhar Pandit for further particulars. Hopes to be favoured

¹ *Bhat*, H. a title or cognomen of learned Brahmins.

² H. litters, sedans.

1789

Feb. 15.

1045. From Khiradmand Khan. Has not heard from his lordship for a long time. Says that he performs his duty steadfastly to Nawab Muzaffar Jang. The Governor-General will learn other particulars from the letter of the Nawab. Hopes to be honoured with letters. (OR 26 ; TR 29, p 107, no 88 ; AR 5, p 17).

Feb. 16.

1046. To the King. Congratulates His Majesty on the release of the Princes from the hands of Ghulam Qadir Khan and on their safe arrival at Delhi. Sends a *nazr* of 101 *ashrafis* on this joyous occasion. (CI 20 ; pp 489-90, no 95 ; TI 35, p 23, no 46 ; AR 5, p 44).

Feb. 16.

1047. To Nawab Abbas Quli Khan. Complimentary reply. (CI 20 ; p 490, no 96 ; TI 35, p 24, no 47 ; AR 5, p 36).

Feb. 18.

1048. From Dilawar Jang. Says that when he first came to Monghyr for a change of air, he improved much under the treatment of Dr Glass. But as he returned very soon to Murshidabad his health again deteriorated and again he came to 'this' quarter. He is much better now. As there is no suitable house in Monghyr for him to live in, he has set out for Patna, where he intends to stay until he is perfectly well. (OR 27 ; TR 29, pp 107-8, no 89 ; AR 5, p 9).

Feb. 18.

1049. From Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Is honoured to receive his lordship's letter in answer to her own. Says that Mr Speke pays her allowance without any trouble but she has not yet received the arrears. Hopes that his lordship will be pleased to write to Mr Speke to pay the arrears also amounting to Rs 5,292. Will set out for Patna on 11 *Jumada I* (8 February 1789 A. D.) to arrange the affairs of her *jagirs*. Requests him to write a letter of recommendation to the Judge of the *Adalat* at Patna and to hand it over to her *wakil*, Shaikh Muhammad Shikeb. (OR 28 ; TR 29, pp 108-9, no 90 ; AR 5, p 26).

1789

Feb. 18. **1050.** From Saiyid Khadim Ali Khan. Intimates that Mr Speke pays his allowance without any trouble but a sum of Rs 6,535 is still in arrears. Requests his lordship to direct that gentleman to pay this sum also.

Says that Saiyid Abdul Ali Khan had mortgaged a house situated at Patna to his father, Saiyid Khadim Husain Khan, for Rs 10,000. The former died without liquidating the debt. His son, Ismail Ali Khan, unjustly took possession of the house without clearing his father's debt. Hopes that his lordship will be pleased to issue an order to the Judge of the *Adalat* at Patna to listen to the arguments of both sides and to settle the dispute according to the Muhammadan law and restore the house to its rightful owner. (*OR 29 ; TR 29, p 109, no 91 ; AR 5, p 29*).

Feb. 18. **1051.** From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is exceedingly pleased to receive his lordship's two letters. Says that he has no connection with any one except the Company and his lordship for he fully realizes that by the prosperity of the Company his family will rise in dignity. Is grateful to his lordship for the kindness shown to his *vakil*, Raushan Ray. (*OR 30 ; TR 29, pp 109-10, no 92 ; AR 5, p 10*).

Feb. 18. **1052.** From Uttam Chand. Complimentary. (*OR 31 ; TR 29, pp 110-11, no 93 ; AR 5, p 25*).

Feb. 18. **1053.** *Advertisement.* The Governor-General in Council having been informed that, notwithstanding the prohibitions already issued by this government, certain ill-disposed persons continue by underhand and secret means to exact and receive an exorbitant *batta* on the exchange of silver for gold coin, and his lordship deeming it of the highest importance to suppress a practice which has been found so injurious to the community, and so detrimental to the trade of this country as to call for the most serious attention

of government, has this day passed the following order in Council, of which public notice is hereby given, viz:—

Resolved that if any person or persons, after the publication of this order, shall extort or take directly or indirectly upon the exchange between the gold and silver coin of Bengal any *batta* or profit beyond that arising from the established exchange of fifteen siccas and one Arcot rupee for a gold mohur of the Calcutta mint of full weight, and in like proportion for larger or smaller sums, such person or persons, of whatever nation or caste he or they be, on due proof thereof being shown to the satisfaction of the Governor-General in Council, shall forfeit the protection of this government, and shall not be permitted to reside within any part of the Company's territories. And, in order to encourage all persons to give information of such offenders, it is further ordered that every person who shall be proved to have taken any such *batta* exceeding the established exchange as aforesaid, shall forfeit a sum equal to the sum on which such excessive *batta* may have been taken one half of which sum shall be paid to the person or persons giving the information against such offender and the other half shall be paid to the Commissioner of Police for and towards the paving and cleaning the town of Calcutta. (CI 20, p 491, no 97).

Feb. 19. 1054. To Balaji Gobind Rao, *Sardar* of Kalpi. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 492, no 98; TI 35, p 24, no 48; AR. 5, p 36).

Feb. 19. 1055. *Dastak* granted to Rao Shankar Rao who is going on leave from Calcutta to Benares and has with him articles of food and wearing apparel. The *rahdars*, *guzarhans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to let him pass without let or hindrance. (CI 20, p 492, no 99).

1789

Feb. 21.

1056. *Bhao Bakhshi to Bhagwant Rao.* It has already been intimated that Ghulam Qadir Khan, Nawab Nazir (Manzur Ali Khan) and others have been taken prisoners. His Majesty has ordered all his effects to be recovered from the Nawab Nazir and sent to the Presence. Rai Sital Das, who had the charge and management of the affairs of the Nawab Nazir, has fled to Lucknow with all the effects. He, too, was guilty of treachery and disobedience. His Majesty has despatched *shuggas* to the Nawab Vazir and Major Palmer asking them to send back Sital Das. It is understood that they have referred the matter to the Governor-General and that Sital Das will be delivered up on receipt of instructions from Calcutta. Desires the addressee therefore to inform the Governor-General of all these circumstances and to represent to him that it is not proper to give shelter to Sital Das who has brought all this calamity on the royal family. It is advisable to send him back. The addressee is asked to communicate his lordship's sentiments as soon as he learns them. (OR 32; TR 29, pp 111-12, no 94; AR 5, p 4).

Feb. 22.

1057. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Has already written several '*arzis*' relating to the departure of Mir Abul Qasim. Says that when he placed before the Nizam the draft of the receipt of a *hundi* for Rs. 8,50,000 on account of the arrears payable by the Company to His Highness, the latter told him that it would be better to adjust the accounts between the two governments with reference to the *wasilat* (actual receipts) of Saif Jang, the farmer of Guntur. His Highness said that he would allow the Company credit for the amount realised by Saif Jang from Guntur. Nawab Azamul-Umara repeated the same proposition. Thereupon Mr Sadlier furnished Capt. Kennaway with the accounts of the receipt of Saif Jang duly attested by the zamindars and *qanungos*. Fortunately, Saif Jang's private accounts, which were left

1789

behind by him at Guntur, came to hand and on comparison it was found that they differed but little from the accounts obtained from the zamindars. Mr Sadlier sent these (Saif Jang's private accounts) also to Capt. Kennaway. All the accounts were then made over to A'zamul-Umara. As the final adjustment of this affair depends upon his lordship's order no further negotiations took place.

P.S.—Nawab A'zamul-Umara also has sent the *Jama-wasil-baqi*¹ accounts of Saif Jang to Capt. Kennaway through Raushan Ray, *Diwan* of Saif Jang. (*OR* 33 ; *TR* 29, pp 112-13, no 95 ; *AR* 5, p 22).

Feb. 23. **1058.** *Dastak* granted to Udayshankar Mehta who is proceeding from Calcutta to Benares. (The remaining portion of this letter is badly worm-eaten and nothing can be made out of it.) (*CI* 20, p 492, no 100).

Feb. 24. **1059.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Informs his lordship of the birth of a son to Nawab Khalilullah Khan on 20 *Jumada* I (17 January 1789 A. D.). The Khan is sending an *arzi* and a *nazr* to his lordship separately. (*OR* 34 ; *TR* 29, pp 113-14, no 96 ; *AR* 5, p 19).

Feb. 24. **1060.** From Babbu Begam. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 35 ; *TR* 29, p 114, no 97 ; *AR* 5, p 5).

Feb. 25. **1061.** From the Raja of Benares. Says that Athar Ali Khan, who attended on his lordship as his *vakil*, has resigned his service. Has therefore appointed Lala Ganga Parshad in his place. The latter has set out for Calcutta and will shortly attend on his lordship. (*OR* 36 ; *TR* 29, p 114, no 98 ; *AR* 5, p 4).

Feb. 25. **1062.** From Maharaja Pratap Singh. Is glad to receive his lordship's friendly letter. Says that

¹ P. total-received-balance. An account in three columns, stating the totals of the revenues expected according to the settlement, the amount received, and the balances outstanding.

1789

Lala Dhan Singh has arrived and delivered the cloths, jewels, elephant, horse, sword and shield as a wedding present from the Governor-General. Has heard much from the Lala about his lordship's many excellent qualities. Is therefore desirous of accomplishing important objects in conjunction with him and now that he has known his lordship's inclination, he will open his mind to him. Has also written to Raja Bijai Singh on this subject because he consults him on all important affairs. As soon as his reply is received, Lala Dhan Singh will be sent back to his lordship's presence. His lordship must have heard of the affairs of 'this' quarter from the newspapers and it is hoped that in view of their intimate friendship he will give his advice in every matter. Has directed Lala Ram Singh to represent to his lordship several affairs relating to the present situation and to communicate his sentiments to the writer. Assures his lordship of his firm support and hopes to hear from him now and then. (OR 37 ; TI 29, pp 114-15, no 99 ; AR 5, p 16).

Feb. 25. **1063.** From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Informs his lordship of his arrival at Benares on 19 *Jumada* I (16 January 1789 A. D.). (OR 38 ; TR 29, p 115, no 100 ; AR 5, p 27).

Feb. 25. **1064.** To Haidar Beg Khan. Is glad to learn that the Khan has paid into the Company's Treasury a sum of Rs 3,70,000 on behalf of Nawab Asafud-Daulah as his subsidy to the Company but he is surprised to find from the statement of accounts, submitted to him by Mr Ives, that besides the instalment for January 1789 a sum of Rs 2,85,000 is still outstanding against the Nawab. This, of course, is not a satisfactory state of affairs so far as proper performance of engagement is concerned. Asks the Khan therefore to see that the arrears are soon cleared. Has also learnt from Mr Ives that the Khan, on his part, had exerted his utmost to pay up the arrears but he (the Khan) could not do so owing to the unexpected heavy

demands made on him by the Nawab himself. Says that the Khan, being at the helm of the Nawab's affairs, can advise him to effect retrenchment in all his unnecessary expenses so that these may not exceed his income. In his opinion the Nawab should curtail his expenses by putting a stop to all such outlays as are involved in the construction of unnecessary buildings and the purchase of superfluous jewels. He should also abolish the establishments of elephants, horses and dogs that he is maintaining. If these measures are adopted the Governor-General is confident that the government of the Nawab will be relieved of its present financial embarrassments and will soon become capable of meeting its various obligations. Being a friend and well-wisher of the Nawab the Governor-General, on his part also, is addressing a letter to him on this subject. Trusts that the Khan, as a faithful servant of the Nawab and a well-wisher of the Company, will make it a point to see that in future due regard is paid to the fulfilment of the Nawab's obligation to the Company. Hopes that the Khan would exert himself in the preservation of friendship between the Nawab and the Company. (*CI 20, pp 322-5, no 17*).

Feb. 25. 1065. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI 20, pp 326-7, no 18*).

Feb. 26. 1066. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received his lordship's two letters. Says that he is sincerely attached to the English Company and his lordship and has no connection with any one else. Hopes that his lordship has received his letter which was sent through Raushan Ray. Refers him to the latter for further particulars. (*OR 38; TR 29, p 116, no 101; AR 5, p 10*).

Feb. 27. 1067. From Mir Abul Qasim. Is greatly pleased to receive his lordship's letter. Has safely reached Bala-sore 'to-day', 24 *Jumada I* (21 January 1789 A. D.).

Is anxiously awaiting the happiest opportunity of meeting the Governor-General but the untimely rains prevent him from completing his journey quickly. Says that since the time he has been engaged in the negotiations between the two governments (the Nizam and the Company), the friendship between them is increasing daily. Hopes that through his endeavours all important affairs will be settled. (*OR* 40 ; *TR* 29, p 117, no 102).

Feb. 27. 1068. To the Teslu Lama. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter (no 976 above) through his *vakils*, Muhammad Rajab and Muhammad Wali. Is much concerned to learn about the turbulent conduct of the Gurkhali Raja who, having conquered the Rajas of Nepal, has now started lawless aggressions in the addressee's territories. Says in reply that it cannot have escaped the Lama's observation that the English, in spite of their great power and extensive dominions, have nothing more at heart than to maintain the most cordial and friendly relations with all the powers in India. In pursuance of this policy they are ever careful not to infringe the rules of friendship by interference in a hostile manner in the disputes of others. Agreeably to the wishes of the Lama therefore the Governor-General will not give any help to the Gurkhali Raja. But nothing would please him more than to hear that a reconciliation has been effected between the contending parties. With regard to the request of the addressee for military aid the Governor-General regrets, on account of various reasons, his inability to comply with it. Firstly, the troops cannot be sent such a long distance as separates Calcutta from the Lama's capital without infinite trouble and great expense. Secondly, it will not be worthy of the Company to attack the Gurkhali Raja who has given them no provocation and caused them no injury. Lastly, it may cause embarrassment to the Emperor of China, if the Company interferes in the dispute between the Gurkhali Raja and the addressee who is a vassal of the Emperor. Says that the Lama must be aware of the

1789

fact that a commercial relation exists between China and the Company's territory and that the English merchants carry on their trade in China quite freely and that it would therefore be highly improper on the part of the Company to afford the Emperor any cause for displeasure. Says also that no direct communication exists between the Company and the Emperor and the latter is probably unaware of the extent of the Company's dominions in Hindustan and of their power in this part of the world. Asks the Lama therefore to acquaint the Emperor with the cordial relationship that has so long subsisted between him (the Lama) and the Company and after this introduction he should act as the channel of communication between them. Is sanguine that great advantages would arise from such a communication and the secrecy that is now maintained in the free expression of their sentiments would then be unnecessary. Refers him to his *vakil* for further particulars. (CI 20, pp 327-34, no 19 ; TI 35, pp 24-9, no 49 ; AR 5, p 54).

Feb. 27. 1069. To Chanzo Cusho¹. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter through his *vakils*, Muhammad Rajab and Muhammad Wali. Is pleased to learn from them all about the good qualities of the Lama and the way in which he carries on the administration of his country. Says that he had a mind to detain the *vakils* for some days more in order to acquaint himself better with the affairs of the Lama and his country, but in view of the long journey before them and the approach of the hot weather, he has given them leave to depart. Refers him to the *vakils* for further particulars. (CI 20, pp 334-6, no 20 ; TI 35, pp 29-30, no 50 ; AR 5, p 54).

Feb.². 1070. *Dastak* granted to³ of Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh who is proceeding from Jaipur to Calcutta

¹ Jehanrow Kishore, according to the vol. of translations is obviously a distortion of the Tibetan name.

² The date is not forthcoming.

³ This portion is badly worm-eaten.

1789

and is carrying with him horses and provisions. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to let him pass without let or hindrance. (CI 20, p 493, no 101).

Mar. 2.

1071. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Has already informed his lordship how the accounts of Saif Jang's receipts were received from Mr Sadler and forwarded to Azamul-Umara and how the latter had sent to Capt. Kennaway the accounts of Saif Jang, according to his (Saif Jang's) own books (*vide* no 1057 above). As he cannot now receive his allowances through the person who paid them at Hyderabad he requests that Capt. Kennaway may be directed to pay him monthly the sum of Rs 900, Rs 700¹ being his salary and Rs 200 being that of his newswriters. (OR 41; TR 29, pp 117-8, no 103; AR 5, p 22).

Mar. 2.

1072. To Diler Himmat Khan, Nawab of Farrukhabad. Has received his letter complaining that the Governor-General's reply to his (the Nawab's) previous letter was received by him after a long delay. Says that the slow progress of Munshi Wajihullah, who was commissioned to carry his letter, was responsible for this unexpected delay. Is glad to learn that the Nawab has paid his *peshkash* for 1195 *Fasli* (1787-8 A. D.) to the Nawab Vazir and that he has also obtained a *farigh-khati*² for the same. (CI 20, pp 336-7, no 21; TI 35, p 30, no 51; AR 5, p 41).

Mar. 2.

1073. To Nawab Khiradmand Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (CI 20, pp 337-8, no 22; TI 35, p 30, no 52; AR 5, p 44).

¹ Rs 780, according to the vol. of translations.

² A. written receipt or acquittance.

1789

Mar. 2. 1074. *Advertisement* calling for tenders for supplying building materials at Fort William, Budge-Budge¹ and the cantonment at Barrackpore². Badly worm-eaten. (*CI* 20, pp 494-7, no 103).

Mar. 3. 1075. To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Has received his letter soliciting facilities for Shivji Ram, one of his adherents, who is going with some of his companions on a pilgrimage to Prayag, Benares, Gaya, etc. Says that agreeably to his request directions have been issued to the officers concerned to exempt the party from all taxes and afford them every possible facility in the accomplishment of their object. (*CI* 20, pp 338-39, no 23; *TI* 35, p 31, no 54; *AR* 5, p 43).

Mar. 3. 1076. To Rajaram Pandit. Is surprised to learn that the Company's officers, who were deputed to take charge of a certain quantity of smuggled salt, were prevented by the servants of Murar Pandit from discharging their duty. On enquiry it appeared that the salt was seized by the Collector of Midnapore within the limits of the Company's territories. Since friendship and good understanding are mutually observed by both the Governments towards each other, the Governor-General is sure that the obstruction has been offered without the knowledge of the addressee. Requests him therefore to direct Murar Pandit to withdraw his servants and to offer no further obstruction in the removal of the salt. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 340, no 24; *TI* 35, pp 30-1, no 53; *AR* 5, p 51).

Mar. 3. 1077. To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Is delighted to learn that he has safely arrived at Benares. (*CI* 20, p 493, no 102; *TI* 35, p 31, no 55; *AR* 5, p 53).

¹ Town in the district of Twenty-four Parganas, Bengal, situated on the Hooghly, 16 miles south of Calcutta by rail. Formerly it contained a fort which was abandoned and dismantled in 1793.

² Town and subdivision in the district of Twenty-four Parganas, Bengal, situated on the Hooghly, 14 miles north of Calcutta by rail. It is the country seat of the Governor of Bengal. The Indian name for it is Chanak.

1789

- Mar. 3. 1078. To Nawab Munirud-Daulah (Shuja Quli Khan). Thanks him for his letter of congratulations on the occasion of Christmas. (*CI* 20, *p* 497, *no* 103a ; *TI* 35, *p* 32, *no* 56 ; *AR* 5, *p* 47).
- Mar. 3. 1079. To Nawab Dilawar Jang. Has received his letter. Approves of his intention of going to Patna for a change of climate. (*CI* 20, *p* 498, *no* 103b ; *TI* 35, *p* 32, *no* 57 ; *AR* 5, *p* 40).
- Mar. 3. 1080. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, *pp* 498-9, *no* 104 ; *TI* 35, *p* 32, *no* 58 ; *AR* 5, *p* 41).
- Mar. 3. 1081. To Diwan Suji Ram. A complimentary reply to his letter. (*TI* 35, *p* 32, *no* 59).
- Mar. 3. 1082. To Raja Mahip Narayan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter appointing Lala Ganga Parshad as his *rakil* in place of Athar Ali Khan. (*TI* 35, *p* 33, *no* 60 ; *AR* 5, *p* 37).
- Mar. 4. 1083. From Dil Diler Khan. Is glad to receive his letter through Munshi Vir Bhan, who has taken leave of his lordship. The Munshi has acquainted him with the kindness and favour that his lordship has always shown towards the writer and he is much grateful to him for that. Is residing happily and comfortably in Benares. Says that since October 1788 A.D. the current Farrukhabad rupee has been declared to be equal to the Lucknow rupee by order of the Nawab Vazir, yet a *batta* of 7 per cent is still charged on his allowance and that of Rai Dip Chand at the Lucknow Treasury just as before. In this way they suffer a loss of Rs 175¹ a month which may be avoided if they are paid in the current sicca of Farrukhabad or of Benares where they reside. Hopes that the Governor-General will be pleased to issue such orders

¹ Dil Diler Khan received an allowance of Rs 2,000 Farrukhabad sicca and Dip Chand Rs 500 Farrukhabad sicca a month. It was paid from the Lucknow Treasury through the Resident at Benares.

to Mr Duncan on this subject as may appear to him just. (OR 42 ; TR 29, pp 118-19, no 104 ; AR 5, p 9).

Mar. 4. **1084.** From Mirza Khalilullah Khan. Intimates that a son was born to him on 20 *Jumada* I (17 January 1789 A. D.) and sends a *nazr*. (OR 43 ; TR 29, p 119, no 105 ; AR 5, p 17).

Mar. 5. **1085.** To Rajaram Pandit. Informs him that some elephants, horses, etc. are being sent to Capt. Kennaway at Hyderabad. Requests him therefore to see that they safely pass through his jurisdiction. (CI 20, pp 499-500, no 106 ; TI 35, p 33, no 61 ; AR 5, p 52).

1086. *Dastak* granted to the *wakils* (Muhammad Wali and Muhammad Rajab) of the Teshu Lama, who are returning to Tibet. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others from Calcutta to the confines of the Company's territories are directed to see that they are allowed to pass without let or hindrance. (CI 20, p 500, no 107).

Mar. 8. **1087.** From the Nawab of Arcot. Is sorry at the departure of Sir Archibald Campbell from 'this' quarter but the appointment of Mr John Holland¹ as his successor who is known to the writer for a very long time, has given him satisfaction. Hopes that Mr Holland by his prudence and abilities will conduct the affairs according to his lordship's desires. Being an old friend of the English Company, he wants nothing save that his affairs be attended to in a just and friendly manner. (OR 44 ; TR 29, p 119, no 106 ; AR 5, p 33).

Mar. 8. **1088.** From the Raja of Burdwan. Is shocked to learn from Mr Mercer that his lordship has issued an order for the expulsion of Babu Daya Chand from the town of Burdwan. Says that Daya Chand is a kinsman of the Raja and has been residing in Burdwan with a

¹ John Holland. Writer 1761. Factor 1771. Junior merchant 1774. Resident at Hyderabad 1780. Member of Council, Madras, 1782. Governor of Madras 1789. Resigned and sailed for England 13 February 1790.

1789

large family for years together. No one equals him in prudence and he always works hard for the good of the writer. It was through his efforts that the writer was able to remit to the Government about 40 lakhs of rupees on account of the current revenues and the arrears. It will be very difficult to carry on the business of the revenue collection without him. If this order is enforced his affairs will be totally ruined and he will fall into arrears. Prays that the Babu's case may be reconsidered and that the order of his expulsion be rescinded. (OR 45; TR 29, pp 119-21, no 167; AR 5, p 3).

Mar. 9. 1689. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary. (OR 46; TR 28, p 121, no 167; AR 5, p 10).

Mar. 9. 1690. From the *ganungos*, zamindars, *chaudhris* and *talukdars* of *chakla* Chittagong, Bengal. Addresses in favour of Mr Hastings. (OR 47).

Mar. 12. 1691. From Sa'id Bin Ahmad, *Imam* of Muscat¹. Says that several vessels have left for Calcutta and in one of them is a friend of the writer named Sulaiman Shah. Although he has had no correspondence with his lordship before, yet he hopes that Sulaiman Shah will be accorded a kind treatment by his lordship. (OR 48-9²; TR 29, pp 121-2, no 109).

Mar. 12. 1692. From the Deb Raja. Says that some time ago he sent some fruits of 'this' country by way of present to the Governor-General and hopes that he has received them. He wanted to send some more presents but a war having broken out between the Raja of Lhasa and the Gurkha Raja (of Nepal) he could not do so. In this war the Gurkha Raja had taken some³ forts from his adversary but at the conclusion of peace they were restored to the latter. Will shortly despatch some more presents through

¹ Muscat, a town on the south-east coast of Arabia, capital of the province of Oman. The ruler of the place is styled *Imam*. Sa'id Bin Ahmad ruled from 1783 to 1797.

² OR 49 is the Persian translation of OR 48 which is in Arabic.

³ 100, in the vol. of translation is a misreading of the Persian text.

1789

a person for whose journey a passport is requested. The collector of Rangpur may also be directed to afford him all possible facilities on the way. Further particulars will be communicated to his lordship by the said person. (OR 50 ; TR 29, p 122, no 110 ; AR 5, p 9).

Mar. 12. 1093. From the Nizam. Has deputed Mir Abul Qasim to his lordship's presence in order to strengthen the friendly relations between him and the Company and to make known the rights of his government which have of old been agreed and fixed. Mir Abul Qasim is a person of prudence and zeal and will communicate such matters of importance to his lordship as will tend to increase and strengthen their friendship. Hopes to receive frequent letters. (OR 51 ; TR 29, pp 122-3, no 111).

Mar. 12. 1094. From the Vazir. Sends a present of dry fruits. (OR 52 ; TR 29, p 123, no 112 ; AR 5, p 31).

Mar. 13. 1095. From Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. Send a present of dry fruits. (OR 53 ; TR 29, p 123, no 113 ; AR 5, p 13).

Mar. 13. 1096. From the Nizam. Sends his portrait to his lordship as a token of friendship under the charge of Mir Abul Qasim. Hopes to be favoured with frequent letters. (OR 54 ; TR 29, pp 123-4, no 114).

Mar. 14. 1097. From the Nawab of Dacca. Says that he had sent a letter to his lordship at Jangipur respecting the discontinuance of the monthly allowance of Rs 537 which was granted for the subsistence of several pensioners. His lordship had then replied that he had transmitted his representation to the Supreme Council for investigation. On his lordship's return to the Presidency, the writer again sent a reminder on the same subject and his lordship was pleased to order an enquiry into the matter. It is understood that the Board's resolution abolishing this allowance was passed in the month of March last but somehow the order was not issued then. The Board has in consequence

now sent instructions regarding this abolition to Mr Day. But the *sanad* which the writer has received is dated 10 March (1788) and it confers upon him the whole of the salaries, etc. which were formerly enjoyed by his late brother, Nawab Hashmat Jang¹. From this the writer believed and still hopes that this allowance would be continued. Has received no reply on this subject from his lordship yet.

Mr Day is constantly importuning him to refund several months' allowance which has been drawn after the aforesaid resolution of the Board was passed. As the writer has distributed the money to those for whom it was intended it is not possible for him to recover it now from them in order to comply with Mr Day's demands.

Mr Day is at present at Calcutta and the writer will be grateful if he is asked to relate every circumstance within his knowledge in respect of the said allowance. Says that the sum alluded to is too small to be an object of consideration for the Company or his lordship. The allowance has so long been the support of deserving pensioners. Its discontinuance will cause more real distress than it is possible for him to describe. If this allowance is restored he will be ever grateful to his lordship. (OR 55 ; TR 29, pp 124-6, no 115 ; AR 5, p 9).

Mar. 16. 1098. *News from the camp of Sindhia at Muttra, dated 6 Jumada II (3 March)*. 'Yesterday' letters were received from Rana Khan stating that the troops were disinclined to advance and that if Hindustani troops were required to be employed, there should be no interference with their pay. A letter was also received from Raghuji Sindhia mentioning the flight of Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. On receipt of this information Mahadaji Sindhia got angry and sent a letter to Raghuji accusing him seriously of neglect of duties. He also addressed an '*arzi* to

¹ Title of Saiyid Muhammad Khan, Nawab of Dacca. For biographical note, See *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol VII, p 25, f.n. 4.

His Majesty enquiring about the whereabouts of the Mirza. He told his counsellors that it did not matter where the Mirza went for nothing was likely to happen. Later he ordered that the Nawab Nazir should be kept in the same place as Ghulam Qadir Khan but he was informed that the Nawab Nazir was suffering from diarrhoea. A message was sent to Nawab Nazir to pay some money if he wished to preserve his life or he would be killed. The Nazir pleaded that he had no money and that, besides he was in confinement under his (Sindhia's) orders. After this the astrologer was consulted about the future activities and he told that 'this' year no expedition should be undertaken. In the coming year whatever might be desired could be done. It was then ordered that the fingers of Mota Mal¹ should be burnt.

'Today' (3 March) Ghulam Qadir Khan sent for Bilas Ray and Hakim Bu Ali Khan and told them that he had committed so bad an act that he would not be suffered to live but he would be put to death that day. He then bade them farewell. They replied that they would also be put to death in two or three days' time and added that he had been warned against committing such heinous acts but he paid no heed to them.

Sindhia sent for Hakim Akmal² and Mir Ghalib Ali³ and desired them as also Baba Jai Ram⁴ to pull out the eyes and cut off the ears of Ghulam Qadir and putting these in a box to send them to the King. He also asked them to take Ghulam Qadir seven or eight⁵ kos away from Muttra and put him to death. This order was executed accordingly. Sindhia then sent 5 boxes containing the eyes, ears and nose of Ghulam Qadir with an '*arzi*' to the King. He discussed the matters relating to Sulai-

¹ Possibly Moti Mal, an officer of the Rana of Gohad, whom Sindhia had bribed to admit his troops in the fort of Gwalior in 1781.

² An attendant of the King.

³ King's Head Munshi.

⁴ *Vakil* of Raghuji Sindhia.

⁵ 6 or 7, according to the vol. of translations.

man Shikoh with Shah Nizamud-Din who suggested that the King should be addressed on the subject. A discussion then arose about Ramratan and other prisoners. Nizamud-Din said that he (Sindhia) might do whatever he liked. In the end Sukhram, *Diwan* of Hathras, came and presented an *ashrafi* and five rupees as *nazr* to Sindhia. (OR 56 ; TR 29, p 126, no 116 ; AR 5, p 14).

- Mar. 16. 1099. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of some Persian dry fruits and thanks him for the same. (CI 20, pp 500-1, no 108 ; TI 35, p 33, no 62 ; AR 5, p 55).
- Mar. 16. 1100. To Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (CI 20, p 501, no 109 ; TI 35, p 33, no 63 ; AR 5, p 42).
- Mar. 16. 1101. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Congratulates him on the birth of his grandson and prays for the life and happiness of the baby. (CI 20, p 502, no 110 ; TI 35, p 34, no 64 ; AR 5, p 45).
- Mar. 16. 1102. To Mirza Khalilullah Khan. Congratulates him on the birth of his son. (CI 20, p 502, no 111 ; TI 35, p 34, no 65 ; AR 5, p 44).
- Mar. 18. 1103. From the Raja of Burdwan. Says that the revenue of his zamindari for the year 1195 B. S. (1788-9) was fixed so high and the country had suffered so much from famine and inundation that he was hesitating to make the settlement with the Government but in pursuance of the orders of the Governor-General and with a view to earning his lordship's favour he took this business in hand. Babu Daya Chand, a kinsman of the writer gave him much assistance in the business and worked hard in the preparation of the *bilabandi* which was a most difficult task. He took upon himself the management of the *mahals* to the amount of about 6 lakhs of rupees which others hesitated to take. He has done the work to the entire satisfaction of the writer and has arranged to pay the current revenues, together with the arrears up to

the month of *Magh* by advancing the money himself and also by procuring it from the bankers. On 9 *Phagun* (18 January 1789) when the writer went to pay a visit to Mr Mercer, he was informed that the Council had ordered the expulsion of the Babu. Is unable to understand for what fault the Babu had been expelled and why the writer has fallen from the grace of the government. If any one from self-interested motives has represented anything against Babu Daya Chand to his lordship, let it be enquired into and let him not be banished from Burdwan without a trial. And in case he (the Raja) should fall into arrears in consequence of the removal of the Babu, it is hoped that his zamindari will not be sold to liquidate such arrears. Hopes that his lordship will give a favourable consideration to this petition. (OR 57; TR 29, pp 127-30, no 117; AR 5, p 3).

Mar. 18. 1104. From Raja Chaitan Singh, zamindar of *pargana* Bishnupur. Says that *pargana* Bishnupur is his hereditary zamindari. During the regime of the former Nazims its revenues were paid in the form of *peshkash*¹, but since the English took up its settlement the amount of the revenue payable to Government has been raised to three times the previous figure. When he made the settlement himself he satisfied the demands of the Government by borrowing money from others just to save his ancient heritage. When the English took over the settlement from him they fixed a small *mushahara* for his subsistence. This allowance has been stopped since 1193 B. S. (1786-7 A.D.). During these 3 years he has been passing his days by borrowing money and selling his household effects and jewellery. He has now disposed of everything and the bankers refuse to give him further credit. His family is now faced with starvation. Requests therefore that his *mushahara* may be restored to him. (OR 58; TR 29, p 131, no 118; AR 5, p 7).

¹ That is to say, a lump sum fixed on a rough estimate, not after a detailed examination of the accounts.

1789

Mar. 18. 1105. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that some time ago he wrote to his lordship on the subject of the kheda for elephant at Sylhet. His lordship was pleased to refer this matter to Mr Willes¹. The latter replied that to conduct the kheda of the *Nizamat* according to the old practice would prove injurious to the Company's revenues. It should therefore be conducted in such a manner as may not prove detrimental to the public revenue. The Nawab then wrote to his *amala* asking them to make over the charge of the *Nizamat* kheda to Mr Willes, which they did.

It was the custom formerly that whatever number of elephants was taken in the kheda or roaming in the jungles was divided into two equal shares, one half going to the Company and the other half to the *Nizamat*. Now that the kheda is conducted by the Collector, the Nawab's share is not sent and both the shares go to the Company. Requests therefore that the Collector of Sylhet may be directed to retain half the number of elephants that are taken in the kheda for the Company and the other half may be made over to the *Nizamat Darogha*. An account of the expenses incurred in the operation may also be transmitted to the Nawab so that a proportionate amount may be credited to the Company's Treasury by the *Nizamat*. By this mode the Company will not suffer any loss nor will any one have reason to complain. (*OR* 59 ; *TR* 29, pp 132-4, no 119 ; *AR* 5, p 19).

Mar. 18. 1106. From Muhammad Riza Khan. Sends a present of fruits. (*OR* 60-1 ; *TR* 29, p 134, no 120 ; *AR* 5, p 21).

Mar. 18. 1107. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. His lordship must have heard the news that at the request of Nawab Imadul-Mulk² and the Rajput chiefs, Timur Shah has decided

¹ John Willes, Collector of Sylhet.

² Ghaziud-Din Khan Imadul-Mulk, who assassinated Alamgir II in 1759 and fled from Delhi in fear of retribution seems to be meant. For biographical note of Ghaziud-Din Khan, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol VII, p 117, f.n. 1.

1789

to march with his army (to Hindustan) and that the Shah has sent *khil'ats* to the chiefs of Hindustan. But the writer personally thinks that Timur Shah himself will not march to Delhi this year. It is probable that his army will march to the assistance of the (Rajput) Rajas and for the punishment of Bahawal Khan¹, a Daudputra² chief, who has been defeated and who has fled to the borders of Bikaner³.

The writer conducts the business entrusted to his charge in conjunction with Mr Duncan. By his own exertions and those of Mr Duncan the scarcity of grain has been removed and now large quantities of all sorts of grain are available. The distress which had overtaken all ranks of people has thus been removed. Several chiefs have arrived here (Benares) on a pilgrimage from the Deccan, the principal among them being Raja Bishan Singh, Raja of Dhar⁴ and brother of Babu Farnavis⁵. Dated 5 March 1789. (OR 62 ; TR 29, pp 134-5, no 121 ; AR 5, p 1).

Mar. 20. 1108. To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter containing the account of her heavy disbursements and requesting therefore that her allowance

¹ Nawab Bahawal Khan II, Ruler of Bahawalpur State (1772-1809).

² The Daudputras are the descendants of Daud Khan, son of Amir Muhammad Channi Khan, a Sindhi chief who held the rank of *Panj-hazari* under Emperor Akbar. Amir Channi Khan had two sons, Muhammad Mahdi Khan and Daud Khan of whom the former succeeded to the chiefship but died after a short time. Disputes then arose about succession between Kalhora, son of Mahdi Khan, and Daud Khan but ultimately the latter had to withdraw his claim and retire with his followers to Shahr Wanji where he founded villages and took to agriculture. Thus the family divided into two branches, the descendants of Kalhora who became known as the Kalhoras and long ruled over Sind and those of Daud Khan, called the Daudputras, who founded the Bahawalpur State.—Punjab States Gazetteer, *Bahawalpur*.

³ One of the largest states in Rajputana, situated, towards the north-east of Bahawalpur.

⁴ State in Central India, under Bhopawar Agency.

⁵ Babu Rao Farnavis was a kinsman of Nana Farnavis,

may be increased by one thousand rupees a month. Says that the Begam is well-acquainted with the desire entertained by the Nawab Vazir and the Governor-General to remove her difficulties and that it was with this object in view that the amount of her allowance was fixed by them after considering her various liabilities and obligations. Advises her therefore to curtail her expenses by effectively reducing all her unnecessary expenditure and thereby equalize her expenses to her income. Refers her to Mr Duncan for further particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 341-3, no 25 ; *TI* 35, pp 34-5, no 66 ; *AR* 5, p 44).

Mar. 23. 1109. From the Vazir. Sends a present of Persian fruits. (*OR* 63 ; *TR* 29, p 135, no 122 ; *AR* 5, p 31).

Mar. 23. 1110. From Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Expresses his friendship for the Governor-General and says that he is longing to see him. Intimates that through the good offices of his lordship he has received great comfort from the sympathy and civility of his 'uncle', the Vazir, and is also much pleased with the obedience and services of Mr Ives and Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. (*OR* 64 ; *TR* 29, pp 135-6, no 123 ; *AR* 5, p 20).

Mar. 23. 1111. To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his letter. Says that agreeably to his request, Capt. Kennaway has been ordered to disburse the monthly salary of the Mir and that of his staff of newswriters. (*CI* 20, pp 343-4, no 26 ; *TI* 35, p 36, no 67 ; *AR* 5, p 46).

Mar. 24. 1112. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Sends a present of ice. (*OR* 65 ; *TR* 29, p 137, no 124 ; *AR* 5, p 19).

Mar. 25. 1113. From Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. Send a present of Persian fruits. (*OR* 66-7 ; *TR* 29, p 137, no 125 ; *AR* 5, p 13).

1789

- Mar. 25. 1114. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has accepted the presents sent to him by her Royal Highness the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan) and has sent in return some *attar*, some hawks and gold mohurs with an *'arzi* through Mian Ilahi Bakhsh and Lala Makkhan Lal. Has given these men *khi'l'ats* and 1500 rupees as the price of an elephant (to be presented to the Begam). Hopes to receive frequent letters from his lordship. (OR 68 ; TR 29, p 137, no 126 ; AR 5, p 19).
- Mar. 25. 1115. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter with some Persian fruits. (CI 20, p 503, no 112 ; TI 35, p 36, no 68 ; AR 5, p 46).
- Mar. 25. 1116. To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 503, no 113 ; TI 35, p 36, no 59 ; AR 5, p 35).
- Mar. 26. 1117. *Dastak*. (This is badly worm-eaten and nothing can be made out of it). (CI 20, p 504, no 114).
- Mar. 27. 1118. *Rajaram Pandit to Bishambhar Pandit*. Says that he is now at Banpur¹. Darap Singh Deo², having stopped the revenues of the government, had taken shelter in the fort of Tapung³. The writer attacked the fort and took it in two hours but the rebel somehow managed to escape. It is known to the addressee that he had provided him (Darap Singh) with 3 lakhs of rupees in order to make a *nazr* to Chimna Bapu (Bhonsla), when the latter came to Cuttack and thus got him confirmed in his *raj*. But he has not yet repaid this amount to the bankers. Desires that he should represent these

¹ *Thana* in Puri, Orissa.

² Probably Raja Devisinha Dev II who was acknowledged in 1779-80 as the Raja of Khurda by the Marathas on his agreeing to pay an annual tribute of Rs 10,000. The Raja removed his quarters from Khurda fort to a fort built in the pass of the Barunai hill and took possession of Banpur, Khurda and Lambai. He was succeeded in 1797-98 by Mukunda Dev II.—*Puri District Gazetteer*.

³ Fortress in Puri, Orissa.

1789

particulars to the Governor-General and procure a letter from him to the Chief of Ganjam directing him to deliver up, on the application of the writer, such rebels as may take shelter in the English territories. The family and dependants of Darap Singh have taken shelter in the house of a zamindar in Ganjam. They should be delivered up to the writer. (OR 69; TR 29, pp 137-9 no 127; AR 5, p 28).

Mar. 27. 1119. From the Vazir. Says that his lordship will have learnt from the newspapers about the departure of Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh from Delhi and of his arrival in the district of Bareilly¹. As soon as he was informed about the arrival of the Prince at Amroha² he wrote to him an *arzdasht*³ requesting him to halt there. Sends a copy of his *arzdasht* and also a copy of the *shuqqa* received from the Prince together with his answer thereto for the information of his lordship. As it is his desire to conform at all times and in all affairs to his lordship's advice, requests him therefore to communicate his sentiments in this matter so that he may act in accordance with them. (OR 70; TR 29, p 139, no 128; AR 5, p 31).

Mar. 27. 1120. *Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh to the Vazir*. Says that in view of the several important matters which could not be communicated to him in writing it was decided that he and his brother, Mirza Akbar Shah, should repair to him for a personal discussion. But as it was improper to leave His Majesty alone, his brother remained behind and he set out to meet him. Has now arrived at Amroha and shall be happy to meet him and to discuss with him some important affairs. (OR 72; TR 29, pp 140-41, no 128; AR 5, p 31).

Mar. 27. 1121. *The Vazir to Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh*. Has learnt that His Highness has left Delhi without the consent of His Majesty and has arrived at Bareilly.

¹ It is situated in the centre of Rohilkhand in United Provinces.

² Town and *tahsil* in Moradabad District, United Provinces.

³ P. a written petition; a memorial.

Says that he is a faithful adherent of the royal family and prays that His Majesty may continue to reign for many years. He considers it a source of happiness to obey the orders of His Majesty and regards it his duty to serve the Prince in conformity with the royal pleasure. If the Prince has left Delhi contrary to the royal pleasure and His Majesty wants that he should go back to him the writer will be unable to receive him. He will respectfully advise him to repair to the Presence. As the closest bond of intimacy exists between him and Lord Cornwallis, he can do nothing without first obtaining his advice and counsel. After the writer has learnt his pleasure and received his advice he will do himself the honour of paying his respects to His Highness. Dated 18 *Jumada II* 1203 (16 March 1789). (*OR* 71 ; *TR* 29, pp 139-40, no 128 ; *AR* 5, p 31).

Mar. 27. 1122. The Vazir to Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Is greatly honoured by the receipt of His Highness's *shuqqa* informing him of his arrival at Amroha and of his intention of proceeding to Lucknow. Says that as a firm and sincere friendship subsists between him and Lord Cornwallis, he can agree to nothing without first obtaining his advice and counsel. He has therefore addressed a letter to his lordship intimating to him the object of His Highness. Requests him therefore not to proceed further until the sentiments of his lordship are known. Dated 19 *Jumada II* (17 March). (*OR* 73 ; *TR* 29, pp 141-2, no 128 ; *AR* 5, p 31).

Mar. 27. 1123. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter informing him of the arrival of Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh in the territories of the Nawab and enclosing copies of the correspondence that passed between him and the Prince in which the Nawab has requested the Prince not to proceed further and soliciting the Governor-General's views in the matter. Since the Nawab has sought his advice in an important affair like this, the Governor-General, as a well-wisher of the Nawab, will gladly give his

frank and candid opinion in the matter. Says that the addressee must have realised that if he encouraged the Prince to proceed to Lucknow it would mean a heavy burden on his exchequer. Besides such a conduct on the part of the Nawab would amount to a disrespect to His Majesty and a want of friendship and good understanding towards Mahadaji Sindhia. This will further be incompatible with the system of neutrality so far strictly observed by the Nawab during the late disturbances in Hindustan. In view of these considerations the Governor-General fully approves of the reply sent by the Nawab to the Prince. Refers him to Mr Ives for particulars. (CI 20, pp 344-5, no 27 ; TI 35, pp 36-7, no 70 ; AR 5, p 55).

Mar. 30. 1124. From Raghuji Bhonsla. Is highly pleased to receive his lordship's friendly letter. Mr Forster who was deputed to this quarter (Nagpur) consoled and comforted him very much on the occasion of the sad demise of his father (Mudhoji Bhonsla)² and displayed conspicuous zeal in strengthening the friendly relations subsisting between the two governments. On the death of the Maharaja letters and the customary presents were received by him from Madhav Rao Pandit Pardhan (the Peshwa) and his ministers through a confidential person. Later, friendly letters came from Balaji Pandit¹ and Hari Pandit² saying that the Peshwa was desirous of a meeting with him (the writer) and that it would be to his advantage to come and see him. As friendship and union has long existed between the Peshwa and his family and as this request has been made with such earnestness the writer has resolved to pay a visit to Poona. After making necessary arrangements for the troops and settling the household affairs he will leave his relations with an adequate force in Nagpur and *suba* Berar³ and will

¹ Balaji Janardan better known as Nana Farnavis.

² For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 214, fn. 1.

³ Province lying between the Central Provinces and the Hyderabad State. Vidarbha of the Mahabharata.

himself set out on 14 *Rabi* II (12 January 1789). On his arrival at Poona he will communicate to his lordship all that transpires between him and the Poona ministers. Says that in compliance with the desire of his lordship he has most reluctantly granted permission to Mr Forster to depart.

P. S.—Is much pleased to receive from Messrs Forster and Rind, the two elephants and other presents which his lordship had despatched through Hari Bhadar Pandit. An acknowledgment has been sent to Hari Bhadar Pandit who will forward it to his lordship. (*OR* 74 ; *TR* 29, pp 142-6, no 129 ; *AR* 5, p 28).

Mar. 30. 1125. From Taj Mahal Begam. Says that the attention and civilities, which his lordship shows to Qutlaq Sultan Begam and her young princes, have afforded her the highest happiness and satisfaction. His lordship's conduct is certainly that of powerful chiefs and great *umirs*. Hopes that his lordship will write to her every now and then. (*OR* 75 ; *TR* 29, p 146, no 130 ; *AR* 5, p 32).

Mar. 30. 1126. From the Nawab of Arcot. Has derived much consolation from his lordship's letter (no 1032) in regard to certain activities of the Nizam which were reported by him to his lordship. This letter has removed all apprehensions from the Nawab's mind and he reposes full confidence in his lordship's justice. (*OR* 76 ; *TR* 29, p 146, no 131 ; *AR* 5, p 33).

Mar. 30. 1127. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Is glad to learn from his letter that he has transmitted to Qutlaq Sultan Begam through Mian Ilahi Bakhsh and Lala Makkhan Lal some hawks, *attar* and gold mohurs as a token of his gratefulness for the presents sent to him by the Begam. (*CI* 20, pp 504-5, no 115 ; *TI* 35, p 37, no 71 *AR* 5, p 45).

Mar. 31. 1128. From the Nawab of Dacca. Intimates that the marriage of his brother will take place on 6 *Rajah*

1789

(3 April). Will communicate all particulars about it to his lordship after it has been celebrated. (*OR* 77 ; *TR* 29, p 147, no 132 ; *AR* 5, p 9).

Mar. 31. 1129. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Says that his lordship is fully aware of the situation of the King in consequence of which every one of the Princes is now desirous of going away to a different quarter. Accordingly Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh has arrived at Rampur. Perhaps it is known to his lordship that Nawab Mubarak Mahal, the Mirza's mother, entertained bitter enmity towards the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) and the writer. The late Prince had no connection either with His Majesty or with his brothers or with any other potentate in the country. He had great confidence in the friendship and attachment of his lordship and consequently after his return from Delhi he came to reside in the English territory under his protection. He is now dead and has left behind his family and dependants under the protection of his lordship whom he regarded as his brother. Is grateful to his lordship for all the favours shown to them. As the late Prince was the eldest son and heir-apparent to the throne his son, Khurram Bakht, is his immediate successor. But Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh is coming to this quarter in order to seek the support of his lordship for possessing the throne. Hopes that his lordship who is fully acquainted with the true state of affairs will always support the claim of Khurram Bakht to the throne. (*OR* 78 ; *TR* 29, pp 147-9, no 133 ; *AR* 5, p 16).

Mar.... ¹ 1130. *Advertisement.* Notice is hereby given that proposals will be received on or before Monday, 4 May 1789, for delivering at the Export Warehouse in Calcutta on or before 1 December 1789, in good condition, 2,000 maunds of best cotton produced in the Upper Provinces beyond Benares. (*CI* 20, pp 505-6, no 116).

¹ The date is not given.

Apr. 1. **1131.** From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary.
(*OR* 79 ; *TR* 29, p 149, no 134 ; *AR* 5, p 10).

Apr. 1. **1132.** *Nawab Faizullah Khan to his wakil at Calcutta.*
Says that on 13 *Jumada* II (11 March 1789) the Prince, Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh, who quitted Delhi without the knowledge of His Majesty, arrived at Rampur. Agreeably to custom the writer went out to meet him, brought him to his house and paid him proper respects. On his departure, he presented the Prince with two horses, one elephant, one palanquin, 5 camels, 3 jewels, a *jigha*, a *sarpech* and a string of pearls, some tent equipage, some cloths and Rs 2,000/- in cash. On the 15th of the same month he left for Lucknow to see the Vazir. Desires him to inform the Governor-General. (*OR* 80 ; *TR* 29, pp 149-50, no 135 ; *AR* 5, p 10).

Apr. 1. **1133.** From Raghuji Bhonsla. Sends a small parcel of sesame mixed with sugar as a token of friendship on the festival of the Sun's entering the sign Capricorn. (*OR* 81 ; *TR* 29, p 150, no 136 ; *AR* 5, p 28).

Apr. 1. **1134.** From Raghuji Bhonsla. Some time ago he received two letters from his lordship informing him that he had despatched some presents through Hari Bhadar Pandit. Says that due to the death of the son of Beniram Pandit, Hari Bhadar Pandit could not come to Nagpur. Hence the presents were brought by Dharm Chand¹ and were presented to the writer by Messrs Forster and Rind. The articles of presents are really very good and he is highly pleased to receive them.

P.S.—Messrs Forster and Rind have left for Calcutta. His lordship will learn every particular in detail from them as also from the conversation of Bishambhar Pandit. Hopes to receive letters from his lordship frequently. (*OR* 82 ; *TR* 29, pp 150-1, no 137 ; *AR* 5, p 28).

¹ Dhuni Doss, according to the vol. of translations.

1789

- Apr. 1.* **1135.** From the Raja of Jainagar. Complimentary, adding that he has written on several matters to Rai Ram Singh who will communicate them to his lordship. Hopes to receive frequent letters. (*OR 83 ; TR 29, pp 151-2, no 138 ; AR 5, p 16*).
- Apr. 1.* **1136.** From Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. Send a present of Persian fruits. (*OR 84 ; TR 29, p 152, no 139 ; AR 5, p 13*).
- Apr. 1.* **1137.** From Jagat Seth. Invites the attention of his lordship to the petition of the shroffs of Murshidabad, which was made during the administration of Warren Hastings, for establishing a mint in the city (of Murshidabad) in order to remove the scarcity of coins. The petition will be found among the records of the Council. Says that the scarcity of rupees and other coins has very badly affected business and trade and is causing much inconvenience to all classes of people. Requests therefore that orders may be issued for the establishment of a mint at Murshidabad. (*OR 85 ; TR 29, pp 152-3, no 140 ; AR 5, p 14*).
- Apr. 1.* **1138.** From Dip Chand Ray. Complimentary. (*OR 86 ; TR 29 ; p 153, no 141 ; AR 5, p 9*).
- Apr. 1.* **1139.** To Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, pp 506-7, no 117 ; TI 35, p 38, no 72 ; AR 5, p 47*).
- Apr. 1.* **1140.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Complimentary reply to his letter, and thanking him for the present of some Persian fruits received through Shaikh Fazl Ali. (*CI 20, p 507, no 118 ; TI 35, p 38, no 73 ; AR 5, p 55*).
- Apr. 1.* **1141.** To Hasan Riza Khan and Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI 20, p 508, no 119 ; TI 35, p 38, no 74 ; AR 5, p 42*).

1789

- Apr. 1. **1142.** To the Deb Raja. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter and encloses a *dastak* as requested. (*CI* 20, p 508, no 120 ; *TI* 35, p 38, no 75 ; *AR* 5, p 40).
- Apr. 1. **1143.** To Muhammad Ali Khan, Nawab of Arcot. Has read his letter professing friendship and expressing pleasure at the appointment of Mr John Holland (as the Governor of Madras) in the place of Sir Archibald Campbell. Assures the Nawab that Mr Holland will maintain the same friendship and regard for his welfare as his predecessor and that the Governor-General himself will omit nothing that can tend to increase the friendship subsisting between them. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 459, no 121 ; *TI* 35, pp 38-9, no 76 ; *AR* 5, p 56).
- Apr. 1. **1144.** *Notification.* Public notice is hereby given that the time for submitting tenders for the supply of materials by contract for the use of the works at Fort William, Budge-Budge and the cantonment at Barrackpore, in terms of the advertisement of 2 March 1789 (no 1074) is extended to Saturday 1 August 1789. (*CI* 20, p 509, no 122).
- Apr. 3. **1145.** From the King. Acknowledges the receipt of 101 gold mohurs sent through Major Palmer as a token of his allegiance to His Majesty and says that he is much pleased to receive his '*arzi*' congratulating him on the occasion of the safe restoration of his children. (*OR* 87 ; *TR* 29, p 153, no 142 ; *AR* 5, p 15).
- Apr. 5. **1146.** From Nawab Taj Mahal Begam. Acknowledges his '*arzi*' of condolence on the sad demise of the Prince (Jahandar Shah). (*OR* 88 ; *TR* 29, p 154, no 143 ; *AR* 5, p 32).
- Apr. 7. **1147.** To Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 346, no 28 ; *TI* 35, p 39, no 77 ; *AR* 5, p 52).

Apr. 8. **1148.** From Bhao Bakhshi. Has received a letter from his lordship expressing his joy at the victory gained by the Maharaja (Mahadaji Sindhia) over the rebel, Ghulam Qadir. Says that his lordship will have learnt from the newspapers about the severe punishment meted out to the rebel and about his death. His lordship's letter was handed over to the Maharaja who was much pleased on learning its contents. Sital Das, *naib* to the rebellious Nawab Nazir, and the sons of Ramratan Modi have fled to Lucknow. When the Maharaja was informed about it he despatched a *shugqa* from the King and a letter from himself to the Vazir through Major Palmer requesting him to send them back to Delhi. Perhaps the Vazir is waiting to know his lordship's sentiments in the matter. Requests him therefore to write a letter to the Vazir desiring him to comply with the wishes of His Majesty and the Maharaja.

Further says that a Frenchman named Mons. Lesteneau, who was in the Maharaja's service, has also fled to Farrukhabad after having embezzled the pay of his battalion. It is against the dictates of friendship that such persons should receive shelter either in the territories of the Company or in the dominions of the Vazir. Hopes that his lordship will write a letter to the English gentleman at Farrukhabad to send back Lesteneau. Further particulars will be communicated to his lordship by Bhagwant Rao. (*OR* 89 ; *TR* 29, pp 154-6, no 144 ; *AR* 5, p 4).

Apr. 8. **1149.** *Bhao Bakhshi to Bhagwant Rao*¹. Sends him a letter for the Governor-General and a copy of it for his information. Says that the King has ordered the Maharaja (Mahadaji Sindhia) to send for Sital Das, *Diwan* to the Nawab Nazir, who had the charge of the records of the receipts and disbursements of His Majesty and the country and to call upon him to render the accounts. A *shugqa* on this subject was written to Nawab Vazir.

¹ Delivered by Bhagwant Rao.

Agreeably to the Maharaja's orders, the particulars were made known to Major Palmer and the *shugqa* was also handed over to him. No reply has yet been received. It seems that the Vazir has written about this matter to the Governor-General and after the latter's sentiments are known Sital Das will be delivered up. Again, the family of Ramratan Modi is residing at Lucknow and the writer spoke to Major Palmer about them also but received no answer. Desires the addressee to speak to his lordship on this subject so that he may direct Mr Ives to send Sital Das and the family of Ramratan (to Sindhia).

Further says that Mons. Lesteneau, a Frenchman, who is in the service of the Maharaja, had deserted his post during the Jainagar war but Ranjit Singh, the Raja of Bharatpur, interceding on his behalf had obtained his pardon. At present he was stationed with his battalions with Rana Khan. Leaving his battalions behind, he took the permission of Rana Khan to go and pay his respects to the Maharaja. But instead of going to him he went to Farrukhabad and from there he sailed away in a boat. His destination is not known. It is contrary to the rules of friendship that offenders should take shelter in the Vazir's territories. Desires him to represent these particulars to his lordship and to get an order issued on Mr Ives directing him to send Sital Das and the family of Ramratan Modi immediately to the Maharaja. Moreover, the Nawab Vazir and Mr Ives may also be asked similarly to deliver up all offenders in future. (OR 90 ; TR 29, pp 156-8, no 145 ; AR 5, p 4).

Apr. 8. 1150. From Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Intimates that he arrived at Almasganj¹ on 1 *Rajab* (29 March 1789) and that he will see the Vazir shortly. As his lordship is at a great distance and cannot speedily repair to this quarter he will learn every particular from the letters of the Vazir and Mr Ives who have been informed of the

¹ A quarter in the city of Lucknow.

writer's intentions. Will abide by his lordship's decision in the matter. (*OR 91 ; TR 29, p 158, no 146 ; AR 5, p 24*).

Apr. 8. **1151.** *Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh to the Nawab Vazir.* Having received the Vazir's 'arzi he proceeded to Al-masganj. On his arrival there he was astonished to learn his sentiments. The Vazir writes that as he is overburdened with his own expenses, he will not be able to perform any service for the Mirza. Says that he did not come to put him into trouble but that he only wished to have a meeting with him in order to represent to him his afflictions. If he can apply a remedy it is well and good, otherwise he will go back. It is not proper to refuse a meeting. Let this take place and after that whatever shall be his pleasure it will be done. He will not put the Vazir to any inconvenience. (*OR 92 ; TR 29, pp 158-9, no 147 ; AR 5, p 24*).

Apr. 8. **1152.** From Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary. (*OR 93 ; TR 29, pp 159-60, no 148 ; AR 5, p 7*).

Apr. 8. **1153.** From Babu Manohar Das. Intimates his arrival at Cuttack on 29 *Jumadu II* (28 March 1789). Hopes to reach Jagannath in two or three days. Says that due to his lordship's recommendation he received every attention from the principal persons at Cuttack. (*OR 94 ; TR 29, p 160, no 149*).

Apr. 9. **1154.** From the Vazir. Says that the people in distress generally seek protection in his territories because they regard his territories and those of the Company as one and the same. Thus Sital Das, *Diwan* of the Nawab Nazir, and the sons of Ramratan took shelter at Lucknow and this information was conveyed to his lordship by Mr Ives. Says that when he received a *shuqqa* from the King to send them back to Rao Madho Rao Sindhia, his lordship was consulted and he advised that the sons of Ramratan might remain at Lucknow and that

Sital Das should be sent under an escort to Sindhia. Accordingly he (Sital Das) has been taken into custody but it seems highly improper to hand over a person who seeks his protection (to his enemies). However he will act according to his lordship's desire. If his lordship decides that Sital Das should be sent to Sindhia, he is requested to direct Mr Ives to send him to Major Palmer under a guard from the battalion of the Company's troops stationed at Lucknow. (OR 95 ; TR 29, pp 160-2, no 150 ; AR 5, p 31).

Apr. 9. 1155. *Dastak* granted to Shaikh Fazl Ali, a confidant of Nawab Asafud-Daulah, who is going by water from Calcutta to Lucknow. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, and others are directed to give him a safe passage and demand no duties from the Shaikh who is carrying with him certain articles for his master (the Nawab). (CI 20, p 510, no 123).

Apr. 11. 1156. From Iradatullah Khan. Enquires after the health of his lordship and says that he received no reply to his former letter. (OR 96 ; TR 29, p 162, no 151 ; AR 5, p 16).

Apr. 12. 1157. From Rani Marichmati¹. Having defeated the Bhutias she threw herself upon the protection of the Company and put the whole of her inheritance into their hands and used to pay her share of the revenue after the manner of a *na'bandi bandobast*². In 1191 B. S. Sarbanand Gosain, in league with Mr Moore, the then Collector of Rangpur, appropriated her share of nine annas and ten *kauris*³ in her *ta'alluq* in (Cooch) Behar Division and her rent-free *devottara*⁴ land and her *zamin-dari* called Boda, etc. He plundered her household effects

¹ Aunt of Khagendra Narayan, Nazir Deo of Cooch Behar.

² Lit. 'horse-shoe money' ; a light tribute exacted under Muhammadan rule, on the plea of keeping up the cavalry of the state, or preventing the horsemen from devastating the country.

³ 20 *kauris*=1 pice. 10 *kauris* would thus be 1/8 nna.

⁴ S. a religious endowment ; land granted rent-free for the support of a temple.

1789

and occasioned her, the Nazir Deo and *Yuvraj*¹ much distress and vexation. Accordingly formal complaints were lodged for three successive years through her *vakil* but her representations were never taken notice of. Representations were made on the subject also to Mr McDowall, the Collector of Rangpur, without any success. Sometimes afterwards under instructions from Mr McDowall, a compromise was effected between them and they lived together peacefully. Later, Sarbanand Gosain misrepresenting their case to Mr McDowall, obtained a guard of the Company's sepoy's and adding to the party his own sepoy's with Ghaus as their headman, he came to her house, seized the Raja and carried him away. Many of her people were killed in the scuffle and her house was plundered and even the buried treasures were dug up and she with her family was thrown into the prison at Rangpur. Though a protégé of the Company she has been subjected to such treatment as was never experienced by any Raja or zamindar under the Company. She, a woman, has been 17 months in prison and many of her people are in confinement. Says that she is unable to bear the hardships of the prison any longer. Has therefore sent her *vakil* Ramkrishna Majumdar, to his lordship and hopes the latter will give attention to what her *vakil* may represent to him. (OR 97-8² ; TR 29, pp 162-4, no 152).

Apr. 14. 1158. From Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Some time ago he wrote his lordship a *shugqa* reporting his arrival in this quarter (Almasganj). The particulars of the recent events in Delhi must have been fully communicated to his lordship and it is no use repeating them here. In short, on his (the Prince's) return to Delhi he received invitations from different Rajas but he did not like to go to them as there subsisted an enmity between them and Sindhia who had never done any harm to the royal cause ; on the contrary, strict obedience has always been per-

¹ Nazir Deo had nominated his son *Yuvraj* or the heir-apparent of Cooch Behar, although the latter could not rightfully claim the title.

² OR 98 is the Persian translation of OR 97 which is in Bengali.

1789

formed by him. It was however thought proper to see his lordship, who is entrusted with the management of the Company's affairs, and to discuss with him the past events which were sorely oppressing his mind and to obtain solace and comfort thereby. He therefore left the royal palace and arrived at this quarter and is now free from all apprehensions. Desires to see his lordship and hopes that by meeting him the hardships of travelling will be changed into ease and comfort. But, for want of travelling expenses he could not proceed further and had to make a halt for a few days. Will now act according to the directions of his lordship because the adjustment of his affairs depends upon his advice. But it would not look well, if having arrived so near Lucknow, he should set out for his lordship's quarter without the Vazir having paid his respects to him. It is therefore necessary that his lordship should write to the Vazir and Mr Ives to perform the customary duties of paying their respects and coming out to meet him. This will be highly pleasing to him. (OR 99 ; TR 29, pp 164-7, no 153 ; AR 5, p 24).

Apr. 14. 1159. From Raja Amar Singh Jadav. Intimates his arrival at Gaya on 9 *Rajab* (6 April 1789). Says that he brought with him the dependants¹ of Rao Pandit Pardhan and had an interview with Mr Thomas Law. There are ten or twelve thousand pilgrims in his company, of whom five or six thousand are very poor and destitute. Had addressed a letter to his lordship for their exemption from the pilgrim duties but received no reply yet. Requests his lordship to order Mr Law to grant the exemption. Says that great will be the heavenly reward for this good act and the fame of his lordship will spread throughout the Deccan. (OR 100 ; TR 29, pp 167-8, no 154 ; AR 5, p 26).

Apr. 15. 1160. From Muda Narayan, *chaudhri* of Lashkarpur². His zamindari consisting of a seven-anna share of Lash-

¹ Family according to the vol. of translations.

² *Pargana* in Maldah District, Bengal.

1789

karpur sustains much injury and losses through the oppressions of Mr Dawson and Diwan Ram Gobind Mitter. In the beginning of the year 1195 Bengali (1788-9 A. D.) the Governor-General was pleased to direct the writer to approach the Collector of the district and settle a *band-o-bas*¹ with him for the ensuing year. Accordingly the writer waited on the collector, formed a settlement with him and paid the *punia* instalment. But on the plea of his not producing the usual *razinamah*¹, a *sazawal* was deputed in the mofussil and village after village was made *khas*² till the writer was turned out of his possessions. By this means he has been deprived of the only source of his livelihood. Hopes therefore that an allowance may be granted to him to enable him to feed and clothe himself. (OR 101 ; TR 29, p 168, no 155).

Apr. 15. 1161. From Raja Harendra Narayan of Cooch Behar. Has frequently represented his situation in his previous letters. Says that Chichakottah³ in (Cooch) Behar is an old taluk of his and the Bhutias used to pay him the land revenue for it but now they have stopped payment. The people of the Bhutia Raja have likewise taken possession of Bhulka⁴ and other *mahals* belonging to him as also the family deity, Sri Sri Jalpesh Thakur. They are Bhutias. What do they know of the significance and the manner of offering *puja* to the deity ? This is tyranny unbearable. Hopes his lordship will order Mr Chauvet to render him justice by restoring his possessions to him. Further particulars will be communicated by his *vakil* verbally. Dated 20 Chait 279. (OR 102-3⁵ ; TR 29, p 169, no 156 ; AR 5, p 7).

¹ P. deed of agreement or compromise, a written consent.

² A. private, peculiar ; as a revenue term it is applied to the management of estates and the collection of the revenue thereof by the officers of Government without any intermediate person between them and the cultivator.

³ Small town, 19 miles north of Cooch Behar. It was taken by a Bengal detachment in 1772 and restored to the Bhutias on the conclusion of the war.

⁴ Village in Cooch Behar.

⁵ OR 103 is the Persian translation of OR 102 which is in Bengali.

1789

Apr. 15. 1162. From the mother of Raja Harendra Narayan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*OR* 104 ; *TR* 29, p 169, no 157 ; *AR* 5, p 14).

Apr. 15. 1163. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is thankful for all the favours shown to him and is firm in the observance of his treaties and engagements. Has written about several matters to his *vakil*, Raushan Ray, who will have the honour to represent them to his lordship. Hopes these will receive favourable consideration. (*OR* 105 ; *TR* 29, pp 169-70, no 158 ; *AR* 5, p 10).

Apr. 15. 1164. 1. *Uttam Chand, wakil of Nawab Faizullah Khan at Lucknow, to his constituent.*¹ On 25 *Jumada II* he called on Mr Ives who was at breakfast at the time. When the gentleman had finished he led him into a private room and told him that when Nawab Faizullah was ordered to assist one of the hill Rajas (Mohan Chand) he had given 3,000 men, of whom 2,000 were his own troops and 1,000 were those whom he had taken into his protection after they had deserted the rebel, Ghulam Qadir Khan, and had run away from the fort of Aligarh. Such men should not have been employed by the Nawab. Further it had appeared at the muster that the Nawab had more men in his army than was warranted by the terms of his treaty with the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah). Again, why had the Nawab sent his troops into the Nawab Vazir's dominions ? The writer replied that the charges were unsupported by evidence. In the first place, it was well known that the *ghats* on the Ganges over which people can cross into the Nawab's country are all under the Nawab Vazir's control and troops are stationed to guard them. Such a large body of men as 1,000 troops with arms, ammunition and doubtless its bazar and baggage could not have crossed over unnoticed. Then why did not the Nawab Vazir's troops stop them ? At this Mirza Ghulam Husain interposed and suggested that probably there was

¹ Copy delivered at Calcutta by Raushan Ray, *vakil* of the Nawab.

a *ghat* belonging to the Nawab. The writer retorted that he should consider his words well before he spoke. Instead of casting suspicion on others the watch on the *ghat* should be tightened up. In regard to the alleged increase in the strength of the Nawab's troops the writer pointed out how on different occasions similar allegation was investigated by the English gentlemen and every time it was proved to have been baseless. There were only 5,000 men, horse and foot, in his service in accordance with the terms of the treaty. Besides, where was the necessity to entertain additional troops and where were the resources to bear their expenses? On the contrary, the Nawab's revenues had dwindled this year to 10 lakhs owing to drought so that even those 5,000 were starving. As regards the sending of troops to the Nawab Vazir's territories the fact is that this was done under the express orders and permission of the Nawab Vazir himself. The copy of his orders might be produced, if required. The instructions were to assist Raja Mohan Chand¹ against his enemy, the Joshi², wherever the latter might be found. But the report that 3,000 men were sent to his succour is false. The Raja's brother³, Lal Singh, may have collected an army which was wrongly supposed to have belonged to Nawab Faizullah Khan. In short, he (the *vakil*) gave a reply to each of the points raised by Mr Ives and their conversation lasted four hours. Requests the Nawab therefore to write a

¹ Mohan Chand became Raja of Kumaun in 1777 but was driven out in 1779 by the Garhwal Raja, Lalat Sah, who placed his own son, Parduman Chand, on the throne. Parduman appointed Harak Deo and other Joshis to the principal offices of the State. But Mohan Chand returned and in 1786 defeated Harak Deo Joshi who took to his heels and Mohan again became supreme in Kumaun and bitterly persecuted the Joshis. Shortly afterwards Harak Deo came back, defeated and killed Mohan Chand in 1788.—*Naini Tal District Gazetteer*.

² The Joshis were a powerful Brahmin clan in the hills and held important offices in the Kumaun *raj* under the Chand family. When Mohan Singh who was at the head of the army usurped the throne and assuming the title of Mohan Chand proclaimed himself King in 1777, the Joshis headed by Harak Deo became his bitter enemies. They were engaged in constant warfare, sometimes one and sometimes the other gaining the upper hand till at last Harak Deo Joshi killed Mohan Chand in 1788.—*Naini Tal District Gazetteer*.

³ Nephew in the vol. of translations.

letter to that gentleman on the same lines as the reply given to him by the writer. Has also informed that gentleman that since the day of the capture of Ghulam Qadir the Nawab has four times proclaimed throughout the city (Rampur) by beat of drum that whoever of his (Ghulam Qadir's) friends, relations or servants will come into the city shall have his hands, ears and nose cut off
Dated 25 *Jumada II* = March 23, 1789.

II. *Nawab Faizullah Khan to Uttam Chand*. Has received his letter giving the account of his conversation with Mr Ives. Fifteen years have elapsed since the Nawab concluded the treaty with the Nawab Vazir and by the help of God no deviation has taken place on the writer's part. His enemies have annually spread reports against him of having formed connections and carrying on correspondence with the King, the Sikhs, the Marathas and others but the allegations were always proved to be baseless upon enquiry. Still these machinators will not desist. Now they are exploiting the case of Raja Mohan Chand. The facts are as follows. Last year the Nawab Vazir came on a hunting party to the foot of the hill in these districts. Mohan Chand, the Raja of Kumaun, paid his respects to the Vazir and was received with honour in every way. After he had returned home the Joshis, who reside at Kashipur¹ in the Nawab Vazir's dominions, assembled a large force of Mughals, Afghans and others who were formerly serving with Ismail Beg and Ghulam Qadir, went from Kashipur to the hills and treacherously murdered Raja Mohan Chand and reduced the members of his family to a state of misery. Lal Singh, the brother, and Mahindar Singh, the son of the murdered Raja saved their lives by fleeing to Nanakmata² in the Nawab Vazir's dominion. After-

¹ Kashipur, town, *pargana* and *tahsil* in Naini Tal District, United Provinces. The town is situated on the left bank of the Dehla at a distance of about 45 miles from Naini Tal.

² Nanakmata, village and *pargana* in Naini Tal District, United Provinces. The place is famous for a shrine of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh religion. Manicmutta, in the volume of translations is obviously a mistake.

1789

wards they came to the Nawab (Faizullah Khan) and sought his aid. He plainly told them that without the permission of the Vazir and the English he could not act and that, in any case, he lacked the means to do anything, having neither men nor money on account of the failure of the spring crop of 1196 *Fasli*. Being disappointed they went to Rudarpur¹ in the Nawab Vazir's dominions. Here they collected a force of 1,000 men from Nagarkot² in district Kotah in Kashipur and went to the hills. Bhola Singh, a Brahmin inhabitant of Moradabad³, went with them accompanied by a body of 500 men. He could have been held responsible if any of the writer's *Jamadars* or *Risaldars* went with them. He (the Nawab) has not permitted any one of Ghulam Qadir's men at Aligarh to evade restrictions and come to his country. All the people who were there are inhabitants of Moradabad, Sambhal⁴, Amroha, etc, and their arrival should have been checked at the fords on the Ganges, all of which belong to the Nawab Vazir. The writer has no responsibility in this matter. Is surprised at the report which has been carried by some one to Mr Ives of an increase in the number of the Nawab's troops which was alleged to have been discovered at the muster. During the last fifteen years since the treaty was concluded the writer's troops have not gone on active service nor can it be proved that the writer has formed any designs which would require the troops to be augmented. For want of money he finds it difficult to meet the expenses and the pay of the troops already in his employ. The income of his estate is well known. The addressee should report every particular to Mr Ives who has also been addressed separately on the subject. Dated 2 *Rajab* 1203=30 March 1789. (*OR* 106-7 ; *TR* 29, pp. 170-76, no 159 ; *AR* 5, p 10).

¹ Village and *pargana* in Naini Tal District, United Provinces, founded by Raja Rudra Chand of Kumaun in 1588.

² Nuggur Cooty in the Zillah Cooty, according to the volume of translations.

³ City and District in United Provinces.

⁴ Ancient town with ruins in Moradabad District, United Provinces.

1789

- Apr. 15. 1165. To Babu Rup Singh. Complimentary. (*CI* 20, p 510, no 124; *TI* 35, pp 54-6, no 78; *AR* 5, p 52).
- Apr. 15. 1166. To Babu Manohar Das. Is pleased to learn of his safe arrival at Cuttack and of his intention of returning to Calcutta after performing the usual religious ceremonies at Jagannath. (*CI* 20, p 511, no 125; *TI* 35, p 46, no 79; *AR* 5, p 47).
- Apr. 16. 1167. From Muhammad Riza Khan. The sum of Rs 31,225 on account of his stipend during the period of Mr Pott's residency is still due to him from the Company. His lordship knows how the Nawab's creditors trouble him. Will be highly obliged for whatever can be paid of his arrears at this time of distress. (*OR* 108; *TR* 29, pp 176-7, no 160; *AR* 5, p 21).
- Apr. 19. 1168. From Rudra Chand Chaudhri¹. As he was returning from his pilgrimage of Sri Jagannath in Orissa, Ramgir Sannyasi brought a false suit against him for the recovery of his debt and kept him under illegal confinement. When the writer's *wakil* represented this fact to his lordship he was pleased to direct Bishambhar Pandit to cause the writer to be set free. Accordingly the writer was let off and he is now at Calcutta. Requests permission to go back to the mofussil in order to arrange for the collection and payment of government revenue. (*OR* 109; *AR* 5, p 27).
- Apr. 20. 1169. Prince Sulaiman Shikoh to Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Mr Johnstone² brought an 'arzi and nazr from the Nawab to the Prince and represented that having regard to the treaty between the English and Sindhia the Governor-General considered it improper that the Prince should stay

¹ Brother of Shyam Chand Chaudhri, Zamindar of 4 annas in *pargana* Mymensingh.

² George Johnstone joined the Bengal Civil Service in 1781 as an Assistant in the Secretary's Office, General Department; Assistant under the Persian Interpreter to the Governor-General 1783; First Assistant to the Resident at the Vazir's court 1787; Head Assistant to the Resident at the Vazir's court 1794; Resigned 1797.—I. R. D.: *Press List*.

in this country. Says that if he had been inimical to Sindhia he would not have come to the Nawab's country, knowing fully the intimacy and good understanding between the English and Sindhia. In the same manner although the Raja of Jaipur and others repeatedly begged him to join them yet he did not comply in consideration of Sindhia's fidelity and services. In fact, he cannot think of harming Sindhia in view of the services performed by him after the death of Afrasiab Khan¹ in regulating the affairs of the empire, and quite recently in saving the King (Shah Alam) and the royal family from the hands of the rebel (Ghulam Qadir). The Prince came to this quarter for a consultation with him and the English gentlemen in order to form his future plans but it is strange that the Nawab would not make him happy by a meeting. This can only be ascribed to his ill luck. In such a situation he has 'neither a place to stop at nor legs to carry him away'. Where can he go? The Sikhs and the Marathas would not suffer him to acquire a foothold anywhere. Implores the Nawab in the name of Murtaza Ali² to look on him with the eyes of justice and realise the fact that he has no one to turn to except the Nawab. Requests a favourable reply.

In the Prince's own hand.—In case the Nawab will by no means admit of his stay in this country, requests to have but one interview. After that he will proceed to Calcutta and on his arrival there, if the Governor-General should approve it, he will go to England, otherwise from there he will proceed to Karbala³ in retirement. (OR 110; TR 29, pp 177-9, no 161 ; AR 5, p 23).

¹ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 67, f.n. 2.

² Cousin and son-in-law of Prophet Muhammad and the fourth Caliph of Islam. The Shia Muslims hold him in the highest veneration.

³ Mecca, in the volume of translations does not tally with the text. Karbala, the battlefield in Iraq where Imam Husain was martyred, is a place where devout Shias wish to pass their last days in retirement.

1789

Apr. 20. 1170. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter through Mr Ives saying that Sital Das, *Diwan* of the Nawab Nazir and the sons of Ramratan, having absconded from Delhi, have arrived at Lucknow and have taken refuge there and that Mahadaji Sindhia has transmitted to him a *shugga* which he has procured from His Majesty commanding him (the Nawab Vazir) to send back the fugitives to the Presence at once. The Nawab also says that in consequence of his lordship's advice he had put Sital Das in confinement and that he considers it unbecoming on his part to surrender a person who has taken shelter with him, but that he will be ready to follow the Governor-General's advice if he desires that the refugees should be handed over to Sindhia. Says in reply that when the Nawab first sought his advice in regard to Sital Das the Governor-General thought it advisable and therefore recommended that the fugitives might be surrendered. Is convinced that the Nawab will also agree with him that the conduct of Sital Das does not entitle him to protection, especially when a chief who is on terms of strict friendship with the Nawab makes the request for his surrender. But if the Nawab should think such a measure to be against the principles of his government, it is not the Governor-General's wish that the Nawab should act contrary to his sentiments. In any case it is desirable that the Nawab should at least order Sital Das to quit his territory without delay. (*CI* 29, pp 347-9, no 29 ; *TI* 35, pp 46-8, no 82 ; *AR* 5, p 55).

Apr. 20. 1171. To Bhao Bakhshi. Has received his letter relating how Sital Das and the family of Ramratan Modi had fled to Lucknow and how Mons. Lesteneau, a Frenchman, had fled towards Farrukhabad after misappropriating the pay of his battalions and deserting the service of the Maharaja (Sindhia). His lordship is therefore requested to ask the Nawab Vazir to get these culprits apprehended and sent to the Maharaja. Says in reply that so far as the surrender of Sital Das and Ramratan is concerned the Nawab Vazir appears to be

disinclined to take any steps in the matter as, according to him (the Vazir), handing over the fugitives that have taken refuge within his territories is against the tradition of his family and government. Such being the case the Governor-General's position becomes all the more delicate and he cannot press the Nawab to act contrary to his sentiments. As regards Mons. Lesteneau, the Governor-General is sorry to say that the former being a French subject and in no way connected with the Company, it would be improper for him to interfere in the matter. Hopes that the addressee who is well-acquainted with all these affairs will readily see the strength of these arguments and explain them with equal force to his master, the Maharaja, so as to remove any doubt that might have arisen in his mind against the Governor-General for his refusal to interfere in the matter. (*CI* 20, pp 349-52, no 30 ; *TI* 35, pp 48-51, no 83 ; *AR* 5, p 36).

Apr. 20. 1172. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Condoles with him on the death of his daughter. (*CI* 20, p 512, no 126 ; *TI* 35, p 46, no 80 ; *AR* 5, p 45).

Apr. 20. 1173. To Bahu Begam¹. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*TI* 35, p 46, no 81 ; *AR* 5, p 37).

Apr. 22. 1174. From Mahanand. Some time ago Raja Guru Das had applied for an interview with the Governor-General who was kind enough to agree to it. Unfortunately, the writer's mother having died on 22 *Phagun* (3 March 1789) he could not avail himself of the opportunity thus offered. States that for the last eight years he has been unemployed and hopes the Governor-General will provide him with a situation he may be deemed worthy of. Attends on Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah constantly and is received with every civility but it is impossible for him to trouble him with solicitations in his own behalf. Hopes from the Governor-General's kindness that he would recommend him to the Nawab so that the writer may get a situation which would ensure him a competence.

¹ This appears to be the copyist's mistake or 'Babbu Begam', mother of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah.

1789

Refers him to his *vakil*, Babu Shambhu Chand, for particulars. (OR 111; TR 29, pp 179-80, no 162).

Apr. 22. 1175. From the widow of Lachhmi Narayan Qanungo. In 1193 Bengali (1786-7) she had appointed Kishan Chand *naib* to the zamindari of *pargana* Rokanpur, etc., but he shamefully abused the trust. So she dismissed him and appointed Bireshwar Mustaufi¹, brother of Jogeshwar. Mustaufi, in his stead and sent intimation of this appointment duly to the Governor-General in the beginning of 1195 Bengali. The *band-o-bast* of 1196 is now in progress. Requests therefore that Bireshwar Mustaufi may be confirmed in his appointment so that the zamindari may flourish. At the same time the ungrateful Kishan Chand may be totally excluded from the management of the zamindari. Also requests that a *parwana* may be issued to her asking her to manage the affairs of her zamindari with absolute peace of mind. (OR 112; TR 29, pp 181-2, no 163; AR 5, p 33).

Apr. 22. 1176. From Raja Amar Singh Jadav. Has arrived at Benares with 10 to 12 thousand pilgrims from Poona and some dependants of Pandit Pardhan (the Peshwa). At Allahabad no duties were demanded in consequence of the orders of Nawab Asafud-Daulah and the poor people accompanying him met with no difficulties whatever. Requests the Governor-General similarly to grant exemption from duties to some 5 or 6 thousand poor and destitute persons accompanying him. Mr Malet and Major Palmer will have written to the Governor-General on this subject. Shall reach Gaya in 10 or 12 days. Mr Duncan may also be directed to perform the duties of friendship towards the writer. Further particulars will be explained by Lala Sewak Ram. (OR 113; TR 29, pp 182-3, no 164; AR 5, p 26).

Apr. 25. 1177. From Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Is sorry not to have received a reply to the *shuqqa* sent by him

¹ The son of Juggiser's brother, in the volume of translations is a misreading of the Persian text.

1789

through Mr Ives notifying his arrival in these parts. Hopes he will receive a reply to the next one. Mr Ives has informed him that his lordship does not approve of his staying in this territory, as in his opinion it would be inconsistent with the friendly connection existing between the English and Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia. Says that he has explained the reasons for coming to this quarter in a previous *shuqqa* and his lordship must have approved them. If the Prince's residence here is not considered desirable then he may be invited to Calcutta so that he may explain his situation and receive his lordship's advice. Assures him that Sindhia would prefer his staying here to going anywhere else. At any rate, it would be disgraceful to the Prince if he should move away from here without the Nawab Vazir coming to see him and performing the customary services. Requests therefore that his lordship will write to the Nawab Vazir advising him and Mr Ives to pay their respects to the Prince, entertain him for eight or ten days at Lucknow and provide him with expenses and necessities for travelling. Then the Prince will of his own accord take leave and depart. Hopes his lordship will comply and thereby afford satisfaction to the Prince as well as to His Majesty (Shah Alam). (OR 114 ; TR 29, pp 183-5, no 165 ; AR 5, p 24).

Apr. 27. 1178. To Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Has received his two letters. In the one he informs him of his safe arrival at Almasganj and in the other he describes the particulars of the outrages committed by Ghulam Qadir Khan during the late disturbances at Delhi. Has also just received his third letter expressing his intense desire to see the Governor-General and asking him therefore to direct the Nawab Vazir to provide him with necessary travelling expenses for his comfortable journey to Calcutta. Says in reply that it would have given his lordship the greatest pleasure to see the Prince at Calcutta but he is afraid that during the present unsettled affairs of Hindustan the Prince's departure to ' this '

quarter would undoubtedly create an uneasiness in the minds of His Majesty and Maharaja Mahadaji Sindhia. Requests him therefore not to take the trouble of undergoing such a long and tedious journey, especially on account of the fact that the persistent call of his official duties at the present moment will not permit him (the Governor-General) to pay his respects to the Prince in a fitting manner. Advises the Prince therefore to return to Delhi as by doing so he will at once win the approbation of His Majesty and the good will of Mahadaji Sindhia. Refers him to Mr Ives for further particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 352-7, no 31 ; *TI* 35, pp 51-4, no 84 ; *AR* 5, p 47).

- Apr.* 29. 1179. From Mirza Muzaffar Bakht. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter which dispelled his anxieties and uneasiness. Says that the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah) is very sympathetic towards him. Mr Ives and Amirud-Daulah (Haidar Beg Khan) afford him the greatest satisfaction by their conduct and services. Mr Duncan is likewise ever ready to perform any service for the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan). All this is due to his lordship's friendship. Whatever his lordship has done, does and will do is highly proper. Hopes for frequent letters. (*OR* 115 ; *TR* 29, pp 185-6, no 166).
- Apr.* 29. 1180. From Sa'adat Ali Khan. Complimentary. (*OR* 116; *TR* 29, pp 186-7, no 167; *AR* 5, p 27).
- Apr.* 29. 1181. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. To the same effect as no 1163 above. (*OR* 117; *TR* 29, p 187, no 168; *AR* 5, p 10).
- Apr.* 29. 1182. To Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 512, no 127; *TI* 35, p 55, no 85; *AR* 5, p 39).
- May* 1. 1183. From Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Has sent several *shuqqas* which must have been perused by his lordship. It was the Prince's intention to stop at

1789

Mianganj¹ till the receipt of his lordship's reply. But in the meanwhile he heard that the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah) was leaving for Bahraich. So laying aside all ceremony he proceeded to Lucknow. The Nawab Vazir met him on the road and performed the duties of attachment. But to the present moment, neither he nor Mr Ives has called at his place. Presumably they await his lordship's orders on the subject. Says that he arrived in 'this' place relying only on his lordship's support and friendship. Requests therefore that his lordship would be pleased to grant permission to the Nawab Vazir and also to Mr Ives to attend on the Prince. (OR 119; TR 29 pp 187-8, no 169; AR 5, p 24).

May 4. 1184. *Dastak* granted to Mansa Ram, *harkara*, and Medu, *rathban*² who are proceeding from Calcutta to Allahabad and are carrying with them a *rath*³ and several bullocks for the use of Munshi Sukh Lal, a servant of Mr G. F. Cherry. The *rah-dars*, *guzarbans* and others are directed to let them pass unobstructed and to demand no duties from them. (CI 20, p 513, no 128).

May. 5. 1185. *Memorandum of a conversation between the Persian Translator and Mir Abul Qasim relative to the treaty of 1768.* Following are the remarks made by the Mir on the various articles of the treaty. (The articles quoted below have been taken from Aichison's *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*).

ARTICLE 1.

The exalted and illustrious Emperor of Hindostan, Shah Alum Padtcha, having out of his gracious favour and in consideration of the attachment and services of the English East India Company, given and granted to them for ever by way of enam, or	No remarks.
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¹ Village in Kanauj *pargana* in Farrukhabad District, United Provinces. It is situated midway between the Ganges and the Grand Trunk Road, 35 miles from Fatehgarh.

² H. Chariot driver.

³ S. a chariot, a carriage: in common use applied to a covered carriage used chiefly by women; also to the car in which idols are carried.

free gift, the five Circars of Moostafur-nugger, Rajamundry, Siccacole, Moortizanugger, or Condavir, by his royal Firmaun, dated the 12th of August 1765, or on the 24th of the moon Suphier, in the 6th year of his reign; and the Nawab Ausuph Jah Nizam-ool-Moolk, as Soubah of the Deccan, having by the second and third Articles of the aforementioned Treaty, ceded and surrendered by Sunnuds, under his hand and seal, to the English East India Company for ever the aforementioned five Circars, it is now further acknowledged and agreed by the said Ausuph Jah Nizam-ool-Moolk, Soubah of the Deccan, that the said Company shall enjoy and hold for ever, as their right and property, the said five Circars, on the terms hereafter mentioned.

ARTICLE 2.

By the aforementioned Treaty of Hyderabad it was stipulated that the Nawab Ausuph Jah having given the Circar of Moortizanugger as a jaghire to his brother the Nawab Ummeer-ool-Omrah, Soujah-ool-Moolk, Bahadoor Bazalut Jung, the Company should not take possession of the said Circar till after the death of Bazalut Jung or till he broke the friendship with the said Company by raising disturbances in the country of Nizam-patam or the Carnatic; and though the Company might justly claim a right to take possession of the said Circar, from the late conduct of Bazalut Jung, yet in consideration of their friendship for Ausuph Jah and his family, and that they may not distress his affairs by obliging him to provide his brother Bazalut Jung with another jaghire, the Company do agree and consent that Bazalut Jung still hold the Circar of Moortizanugger, on the aforesaid conditions, or till it be the pleasure of Ausuph Jah that the Company should take possession thereof; provided that the said Bazalut Jung returns immediately to his own country of Adony, and neither

Sarkar Guntur is now handed over to the Company. The death of Bazalut Jung has totally changed the tenor of this Article and has made it useless. It may therefore be struck out of the Treaty.

keeps with, nor receives from Hyder Naique any vakeel or correspondence, but lives in peace and harmony with the English Company and the Nawab Wolau Jah, and gives no protection or assistance whatever to the said Naique or any of his people, nor any other enemies of the Company or the Nawab Wolau Jah : but if this Article shall at any time be infringed, the Company shall be at liberty by virtue of this Treaty, to take possession of and keep the Circar of Moortizanugger in the same manner as the other four, and the Nawab Ausuph Jah engages to assist them therein with his troops, if necessary.

ARTICLE 3.

The fort of Condapille with its jaghire shall for ever hereafter remain in possession of the English Company, and be garrisoned with their troops, under their own officers only, notwithstanding anything to the contrary stipulated in the twelfth Article of the Treaty of Hyderabad.	No remarks.
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ARTICLE 4.

Narraindoo, one of the zamindars of the Circar of Siccacole, having lately raised disturbances in the Itachapore country, and refused (as he alleges, in conformity to the Nawab Ausuph Jah's orders) to pay his rents, or obedience to the Company the Nawab Ausuph Jah agrees, on the signing and exchange of the present Treaty, to write letters not only to Narraindoo but to all the zamindars in the Circars of Ellour, Moostafurnuggur, Rajahmundry, and Siccacole, acquainting them that they are in future to regard the English Company as their sovereign, and to pay their rents and obedience to the said Company or their deputies, without raising any troubles or disturbances. The Nawab Ausuph Jah further agrees that he will not in future encourage or protect, in raising troubles or disobedience, any zamindars, renters, or servants of the English Company, or the Nawab Wolau Jah, who on their parts engage the same to His Highness Ausuph Jah.	No remarks.
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ARTICLE 5.

It has been the constant desire and endeavour of the English Company and the Nawab Wolau Jah to preserve their possessions in peace, and to live on terms of friendship with the Soubah of the Deccan : they still desire to do the same ; and though the operations of war have lately obliged the Company to send their troops towards Hyderabad, and to take possession of the Circars of Commamet and Worangole, yet, as a proof of their friendship for the Nawab Ausuph Jah, etc., Subah of the Deccan, on the signing and exchange of this Treaty, the Company's troops shall be recalled to the fort of Commamet from whence they shall also retire into their own Circars, so soon as the Soubah with his army has crossed the Kistna, leaving the fort of Commamet to the Soubah's deputy. And, as a further proof of the Company's sincere desire to preserve a friendship with the Soubah of the Deccan, they agree to bury in oblivion what is past, and to pay him annually for the space of six years, to be computed from the 1st of January 1781, or the 10th of the moon Shabeen, in the year of the Hegira 1181, the sum of two lakhs of Arcot Rupees, at Madras or Musulipatam, that is to say, one lakh on the 31st of March, and also one lakh on the 31st of October, or two lakhs every year, and one lakh more at each of these periods, whenever the Circar of Condavir is put into the Company's possession. The Company moreover promise that if they peaceably possess the Circars during the aforesaid term of six years and the Soubah gives them not trouble, they will pay annually, from the 1st of January 1774, the sum of five lakhs, in two equal payments, as before expressed, or of seven lakhs, if Condavir be then in their possession ; but in case the Soubah, or the Marathas by his instigation, should invade the Circars or Carnatic, or they, or any other power should conquer the Circars from the English Company, the payment of the

The Mir admitted that the fulfilment of this article had been neglected by the Nizam. But the surrender of Guntur shows his desire for the due performance of the Treaty. His lordship has also declared his intention to do the same. The balance of the *peshkash* is in a fair way to be ascertained and it will be done by stating the due amount against the receipts from Guntur. The accounts sent by Capt. Kennaway and those which his lordship has in his hand have been compared and found to tally. The amount which is shown to be due by these accounts will be discharged. But the Nizam requires further amendments to this Article in order to ensure the regular discharge of the *peshkash* hereafter. Two alternatives suggest themselves. Either the *zillahs* Ellore and Mutazatagar should be made over to the Nizam in lieu of all further demands of *peshkash* or they should remain as collateral security to be surrendered to the Nizam in payment of the *peshkash*, if at some future date it should remain unpaid for two whole years.

said sums shall be suspended till peace and the Circars are restored to the Company.

ARTICLE 6.

It was stipulated in the former Treaty made at Hyderabad that the Company and the Soubah should mutually assist each other with their troops when required and their own affairs would permit; but it being apprehended at present that such an agreement may subject both parties to difficulties and that misunderstandings may arise on that account, it is now agreed only that a mutual peace, confidence, and friendship shall subsist for ever between the English Company, His Highness Ausuph Jah, the Nawab Wolau Jah; the enemies of either shall be regarded as the enemies of the other two powers and the friends of either be treated as the friends of all; and in case any troubles should arise, or any enemies invade the countries under the Government of either of the contracting parties, the other two shall give no countenance or assistance to such enemies or invaders. The Company and the Nawab Wolau Jah, willing, however, to show their voluntary attachment to the Soubah, will always be ready to send two battalions of sepoys and six pieces of artillery, manned by Europeans, whenever the Soubah shall require them and the situation of their affairs will allow of such a body of troops to march into the Deccan, provided the Soubah pays the expense during the time that the said troops are employed in his service.

ARTICLE 7.

The exalted and illustrious Emperor, Shah Allum, having been pleased, out of his great favour and high esteem for the Nawab Wolau Jah, to give and grant to him and his eldest son, Meyen-ool-Moolk Omdet-oll-Omrah, and their heirs for ever the Government of the Carnatic, Payen Gaut and the countries dependent thereon, by his royal Firmaun, bearing dated the 26th of August 1765,

ARTICLE 6.

The wording of this Article is very ambiguous. If the Company is inclined to give effect to this Article, the number of troops should be specified and the amount of the expense fixed. The words "when ever the situation of their affairs will allow" make the Article ambiguous. It should be stated in more explicit terms.

ARTICLES 7 & 8.

In regard to these articles the *vakil* remarked that the name of Muinul-Mulk, eldest son of the Nawab of Arcot, is inserted as a successor to his father. This necessarily brings on a correspondence between Muinul-Mulk and the Nizam whereas according to the treaty, correspondence is

or the 27th of the moon Zuphur, in the sixth year of the said Emperor's reign ; and the Nawab Ausuph Jah Nizam-ool-Moolk, etc., having also, out of his affection and regard for the said Nawab Wolau Jah, released him, his son Meyen-ool-Moolk, etc., and their heirs, in succession for ever from all dependence on the Deccan, and given him a full discharge of all demands, past, present, and to come, on the said Carnatic Payen Gaut, by a sannud, under his hand and seal, dated the 12th of November 1766 ; in consideration of the said Nawab Wolau Jah having paid the Soubah five lakhs of Rupees, it is now agreed and acknowledged by the said Ausuph Jah Nizam-ool-Moolk that the said Nawab Wolau Jah, and after him his son Meyen-ool-Moolk and heirs in succession, shall enjoy for ever as an ultumgah, or free gift, the government of the Carnatic Payen Gaut, in the fullest and amplest manner, the said Nawab Ausuph Jah promising and engaging not to hold or keep up any kind of correspondence with any person or persons in the said Carnatic Payen Gaut or in the Circars before and now ceded to the English Company, except the said Nawab Wolau Jah, or the said English Company by the means of their President and Council of Madras, who, on their part in conjunction with the said Nawab Wolau Jah, engage likewise not to hold or maintain any correspondence with any person or persons in the Deccan, except the Nawab Ausuph Jah, his Dewan, and the securities whose names are hereunto subscribed.

ARTICLE 8.

The Nawab Ausuph Jah, out of his great regard and affection, and from other considerations, having been pleased to grant and confer on the Nawab Wolau Jah, and his eldest son Meyen-ool-Moolk Omdet-ool-Omrah, several Sunnuds, *viz.*—

An ultumgah Sunnud for the whole of the Carnatic.

only permissible between the Nawab of Arcot and the English Company on the one hand and the Nizam, his *Diwan* etc., on the other. So either the Nawab or his son and not both should correspond with the Nizam. In that case Muinul-Mulk's name may be omitted from the Treaty.

An ultumgah Sunnud for the whole of the pergunnah of Imungandela, with the Gudda of Ghunpoora.

An ultumgah Sunnud for the whole of the villages of Cathasera, etc.

An ultumgah Sunnud for the kille-dary of the fort of Colaur.

An ultumgah Sunnud for the whole of the district of Sonedaupé; and a full and ample Sunnud, containing a discharge for all demands, past, present, and future on account of the Carnatic, etc.

It is hereby agreed that all and every one of these Sunnuds shall be regarded equally binding with any other Article of the Treaty, and be as duly observed by the Nawab Ausuph Jah as if entered here at full length.

ARTICLE 9.

Hyder Naique having for some years past usurped the government of the Monsore country, and given great disturbances to his neighbours by attacking and taking from many of them their possessions, and having so lately invaded and laid waste with fire and sword the possessions of the English Company and the Nawab Wolau Jah in the Carnatic, it is certainly necessary for their peace and for the general benefit of all the neighbouring powers, that the said Naique should be punished and reduced, so that he may not hereafter have the power to give any person further trouble; to this end, the Nawab Ausuph Jah hereby declares and makes known to all the world that he regards the said Naique as a rebel and usurper, and as such divests him of, and revokes from him, all Sunnuds, honours, and distinctions conferred by himself or any other Soubah of the Deccan, because the said Naique has deceived the Nawab Ausuph Jah, broken his agreement, and rendered himself unworthy of all further countenance and favours.

No remarks.

ARTICLE 10.

That the English Company may hereafter carry on their trade peaceably on this coast of Coromandel and also on the coast of Malabar, and that they with the Nawab Wolau Jah, may hold the Carnatic and their other possessions in peace, it appears necessary that the countries of Carnatic Balagaute, belonging to the soubadarry of Viziapore, now or lately possessed by Hyder Naique, should be under the management and protection of those who will do justice and pay obedience to the high commands from Court. It is therefore agreed by the Nawab Ausuph Jah that he shall relinquish to the English Company all his right to the Dewanny of the said Carnatic Balagaute, belonging to the soubadarry of Viziapore, and that the Company shall present an urzee, or petition, to the royal presence to obtain from the Emperor Shah Allum a Firman, confirming and approving their right thereto. But that the Nawab Ausuph Jah, as Soubah of the Deccan, may not lose his dignity or the revenue arising from the said countries, the English Company agree to pay him annually out of the Dewanny collection, from the time they are in possession thereof, the sum of seven l khs of Arcot Rupees, including Durbar charges, being the sum annually paid heretofore, in two equal payments, at the space of six months from each other, provided the said Ausuph Jah, Soubah of Deccan, assists the said Company and the Nawab Wolau Jah in punishing Hyder Naique, and neither receives from, or sends either vakeels or letters to him.

ARTICLE 11.

As the English Company do not intend to deprive the Marathas of their chout, any more than the Soubah of his *peshkash*, which used to be paid from the Carnatic Balagaute,

ARTICLE 10.

This comprises two heads the *Dirani* of the Carnatic Balaghat and the prohibition of correspondence with the Deccan powers (Haider Ali). On the first, the *rakil* remarks that by virtue of a *sanad* dated 29 March 1788¹, the Carnatic Balaghat then in possession of Haider Ali, became the property of the English on the conditions expressed in the *sanad*. But the English have not paid the stipulated *peshkash*. Either this stipulation should be performed or the Article should be struck out of the treaty and the *sanad* returned to the Nizam. On the second, he remarked the impossibility on both sides of acting unto it, for the confines of the Nizam's dominions are contiguous to those of the prohibited powers. Consequently an Article that cannot be duly observed should be struck out.

ARTICLE 11.

This Article depending on the previous one and concerning with the *Chauth* to the Marathas requires no further comment.

¹ 12 March 1768, according to Aitchison.

belonging to the soubadarry of Veziapore, now or lately possessed by Hyder Naique, it is hereby agreed, and the Company willingly promise to pay the Mahrattas regularly and annually without trouble for the whole chout, as settled in former times, from the time the said countries shall be under the Company's protection as Dewan; provided, however, that the Mahrattas guarantee to the Company the peaceable possession of the said Dewanny: to this end, the Nawab Ausuph Jah promises to use his best endeavours, jointly with the English and the Nawab Wolau Jah, to settle with the Mahrattas concerning the chout of the said countries, how and where it is to be paid, so that there may be no disturbances hereafter on that account between any of the contracting parties or the Mahrattas.

ARTICLE 12.

All the foregoing Articles are sincerely agreed to by the subscribing parties, who resolve faithfully to execute and abide by the same, so that a firm and lasting friendship may mutually subsist between them; and while such an alliance subsists, what power will dare to disturb the possessions of either party? The English Company and the Nawab Wolau Jah will endeavour on all occasions to show their friendship and attachment to the Nawab Ausuph Jah Nizam-ool-Moolk as Soubah of the Deccan, and look on the support of that government as the support of their own; in short, there will be no manner of difference in interest between them. (*TI 35, pp 70-3, no 108 [3]*).

ARTICLE 12.

The *vakil* makes no further remark on this Article than that a general observance of the Treaty is anxiously desired by the Nizam.

May 6.

1186. From Bhao Bakhshi. The villages Patarwa and Hansody¹ in *pargana* Sheopur were given in *jagir* to the writer by the Company and he made them over to Swami Shivanand Saraswati², his religious preceptor. Three years ago, one Kishan Parshad, an inhabitant of Benares,

¹ Petrawan and Soondy, according to the vol. of translations.

² Soamy Seomind Serputty, according to the vol. of translations.

1789

seized possession of the *jagir* on the false plea of the writer having granted it to him. When the writer was at Benares he sent for the man and asked him to produce his title deeds. Naturally, he failed to do so. Then he was asked to return the money that he had so long realised from the villages. He gave a written undertaking to pay it back and offered the surety of Murlidhar Rao, a banker. After this the writer left the place. Kishan Parshad paid one instalment as he had promised and then stopped the payment and went to the cutcherry of Mr Duncan (to seek his protection). The Swami left his *gumashta* in the cutcherry to defend his case and pointed out the surety from whom the money might be recovered. But no one listened to his (the *gumashta's*) representation and he at length came away. So the Swami has again gone to the cutcherry. Requests his lordship therefore to ask Mr Duncan to reprimand Kishan Parshad and to restore the property to its lawful owner. Refers him for further particulars to Bhagwant Rao. (OR 120 ; TR 29, pp 169-70, no 170; AR 5, p 4).

- May 8. 1187. To Raja Amar Singh Jadav. Acknowledges the receipt of his two letters. Says that agreeably to his request his lordship has directed Mr Thomas Law to exempt the Raja and his followers from the pilgrim-tax at Gaya. (CI 20, pp 513-14, no 129 ; TI 35, p 55, no 86 ; AR 5, p 50).
- May 8. 1188. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter and informs him that necessary orders regarding saltpetre have been issued to Mr Speke. (CI 20, p 514, no 130 ; TI 35, p 55, no 87 ; AR 5, p 45).
- May 8. 1189. To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 515, no 131 ; TI 35, p 56, no 88 ; AR 5, p 53).
- May 8. 1190. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has received his letter. Assures him of his friendship as long as he abides by the stipulations of his engagements. (CI 20, pp 515-16, no 132 ; TI 35, p 56, no 89 ; AR 5, p 41).

1789

May 9. 1191. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Is anxious not to have received any letters from his lordship for a long time. Hopes he will write to her frequently about the state of his health and welfare. (OR 121 ; TR 29, p 190, no 171; AR 5, p 16).

May 10. 1192. *Memorandum* containing the Governor-General's reply to the remarks made by Mir Abul Qasim on the treaty (of 1768) on 5 May 1789 (*vide* no 1185 above).

Article 1. No remarks.

Article 2. This article has been carried into effect but it seems to answer no good purpose to strike it out of the treaty.

Articles 3 and 4. No remarks.

Article 5. The object of the present negotiations is not to make new treaties but to explain that which was made in 1768 with a view to a more perfect observance of it. Although several circumstances have occurred since the conclusion of that treaty of which the English think they have reason to complain and although the Nizam did during that period form connections injurious to the interests of the Company with Haidar Ali Khan then their avowed enemy, yet it is not intended to take advantage of that argument for withholding from him the *peshkash* for the *sarkars*. But whatever balance may appear to be due upon a regular statement of the account between the two Governments will be immediately discharged.

It would be disgraceful to the English to surrender any part of the Company's dominions as a security for the future payment of the *peshkash*. The honour of the nation is engaged and is the pledge of security to the Nizam that the articles of the treaty will be fully carried into effect. Under this declaration it is by no means probable that the future payments of the *peshkash* will ever fall two years in arrears as the Nizam seems to apprehend. Nothing but the exigencies of a war which this Government may have to prosecute can occasion so great a delay

In times of peace the *peshkash* shall be discharged in *qists* in the manner that shall be now agreed on.

Article 6. Ambiguous expressions are very improper in treaties and this Government is willing to give a clear explanation of every point which appears doubtful in this article. Instead of the words "Whenever the situation of their affairs will allow of such a body of troops to march into the Deccan", this Government agrees that military force shall be granted whenever the Nizam shall apply for it making the only condition that it is not to be employed against any power in alliance with the Company. The battalions that may be furnished to the Nizam shall not consist of less than 800 men each. The six field-pieces shall be manned with the number of Europeans which is usual in time of war. The expenses to be charged to the Nizam shall be no more than the exact sum which it costs the Company to maintain a body of that force when employed on service in the field. The detachment shall march within two months, or sooner if possible, of its being requisitioned and expenses will be charged to the Nizam from the day on which it commenced its march to co-operate with him. Whilst their neighbours observe the subsisting treaties with the Company the English are not at liberty to negotiate for affording larger succour than that stipulated by the treaty of 1703. But this clear explanation of its meaning will afford the Nizam a convincing proof of the Company's determination to adhere to the faith of it.

Article 7. The Article fully confirms the right of Nawab Walajah and his heirs and successors to the possession of the Carnatic Payanghat. There can be no reason for removing the name of Mahul-Mulk from the treaty as his father has a right to employ whatever persons he may think proper in the management of his affairs during his own lifetime and there can be no impropriety in the Nizam's corresponding with those persons whenever the interests of both countries should require it.

Article 8. This is a further confirmation of the right of Nawab Walajah.

Article 9. No remarks.

Articles 10 and 11. Circumstances have totally prevented the execution of these articles and the Company is now at peace with all the world. But if the Company should hereafter obtain possession of the country mentioned in these articles with the assistance of the Nizam they will strictly carry out the stipulations in his favour and in favour of the Marathas.

Article 12. It is the earnest desire of the English to give effect to the treaty of 1768 and to live in perpetual amity and friendship with the Nizam. It is however, proper to remark that the affairs of both parties might suffer injury from being excluded from corresponding with the powers of the Deccan. Both the parties should therefore be at liberty to receive or send *vakils* and correspond with any other power in the Deccan in such manner as may be most expedient for the benefit of their own affairs on condition that the object of such intercourse or correspondence be not hostile to either of the contracting parties. Dated 10 May 1789. [*CI* 20, pp 381-3, no 38; *TI* 35, pp 74-80, no 108 (4)].

May 11. 1193. From Nawab Muzaffar Jang of Farrukhabad. Has received his lordship's letter through Munshi Wajihullah saying that his lordship has directed Mr Ives to exert himself in promoting his interests. Is grateful for this mark of his favour. Intimates that the *kharif* crop has failed in his country and that *rabi* is unsatisfactory. Still the Nawab is exerting himself to pay the stipulated tribute to the Nawab Vazir as he knows that this will give satisfaction to his lordship. (*OR* 122 ; *TR* 29, pp 190-1, no 172 ; *AR* 5, p 12).

May 11. 1194. From Khiradmand Khan. Has received his two letters. Offers thanks for the kind message received through Munshi Wajihullah. Is confident that his lordship

will promote the prosperity of the Nawab (Muzaffar Jang). (OR 123 ; TR 29, p 191, no 173 ; AR 5, p 17).

May 11. 1195. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Sends the account of the arrears of his stipend during the residency of Mr Pott, as desired by his lordship. Says that Mr Pott's claim upon the Khan for the sums he has spent in making repairs to the house of Afzal Bagh¹ is inadmissible, for he had repeatedly told the gentleman that the house had cost him a large sum of money and that he was not inclined to lay out more money on its alteration or repairs. If that gentleman has spent money to please his own fancy he cannot claim it from the writer. Were the Khan to demand of Mr Pott the rent for the five years that he occupied his house, it would amount to a large sum. But he makes no demand for the rent nor for the large sums of money which he paid to indemnify the ryots whom he (Mr Pott) had oppressed and driven away from there. Dated 6 *Shaban* (2 May).

Account of the stipend of Muhammad Riza Khan during the residency of Mr Pott.

Arrears due to the end of May 1789. 56,230-3-14

Received at the end of April 1789:

Drafts	11,875	
Bank-notes	11,880	
Commission	1,250	
		25,005-0-0

Balance due	31,225-3-14
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(OR 124-5 ; TR 29, pp 192-3, no 174 ; AR 5, p 21).

May 12. 1196. From Raja Harendra Narayan. His lordship is certainly acquainted with the particulars of his situation from the many letters which he has already written to him and from the representations of Messrs Mercer and Chauvet. At the time when he claimed the protection of the Govern-

¹ Garden near Motijhil in Murshidabad town.—*Dist. Gazetteer of Murshidabad.*

1789

ment according to Sarbanand Gosain's advice, Khagendra Narayan officiated as his Nazir. After the death of his father (the late Maharaja), Khagendra Narayan continually committed the most daring outrages and even intended to take his life as well as that of his mother. Sarbanand Gosain informed the Collector of the district of these outrages, and with the help of the latter and by the exertions of his *vakils*, their lives have been saved.

From the time that his father agreed to pay a *na'ibandi* to the Company he entrusted Sarbanand Gosain with the entire management of the state of (Cooch) Behar. The writer also confirmed him in this appointment. He is a trustworthy person and his lordship may have heard from the Englishmen to whom the writer spoke about his loyalty. The stipulated revenue is being regularly paid every year. The Raja and his mother are perfectly satisfied with their present situation. It is earnestly requested that his lordship will honour Sarbanand by a *parwana* expressing his approbation of his (Gosain's) appointment. (OR 126-7¹; TR 29, pp 193-4, no 175; AR 5, p 14).

May 12. 1197. From the mother of Raja Harendra Narayan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 128; TR 29, p 194, no 176; AR 5, p 14).

May 13. 1198. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges his lordship's letter of condolence on the death of his daughter. (OR 129; TR 29, p 194, no 177; AR 5, p 19).

May 13. 1199. To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 516, no 133; TI 35, p 56, no 90; AR 5, p 43).

May 14. 1200. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Her servants, Mian Ilahi Bakhsh and Lala Makkhan Lal, have returned in safety and delivered his lordships *'arzi* to her. Who

¹ OR 127 is the Persian Translation of OR 126 which is in Bengali.

1789

is there in this world, except his lordship, to sympathise with and console her in this manner? Has received much comfort from the assurances of friendship and service conveyed in his lordship's letter. Hopes he will write to her every now and then. (OR 130: TR 29, p 195, no 178; AR 5, p 16).

May 15. 1201. To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Complimentary reply to her letters. (CI 20, pp 357-8, no 32; TI 35, p 56, no 91; AR 5, p 44).

May 17. 1202. From Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Has received his 'arzi through Mr Ives in reply to the *shuqqa* addressed to him. His lordship has written that he did not think it advisable for the Prince to go to Calcutta in consideration of the inconveniences of travelling. Says that without his lordship's consent he would not go to that quarter. The services rendered by his lordship to his deceased brother (Jahandar Shah) and the friendship shown to him are known the world over and it is for this reason that the writer came away to this place where he was certain of being received with kindness. His lordship advises that the Prince should return to His Majesty the King as this would please him (the King) and that Sindhia would perform the duties of allegiance and obedience towards them. But the facts are these. The disposition of the *Junubis*¹, particularly Sindhia, for adherence to engagements is certainly well-known to his lordship who must have also learnt from the newspapers about the scanty attention paid by Sindhia's people to His Majesty. In the circumstances, if his lordship and the Nawab Vazir cannot cheerfully provide for the Prince's expenses then he must return (to Delhi). But they must consider well and justly how he is to return and how he is to live there in peace and safety. Is convinced that his lordship will propose such measures as would be advantageous to the Prince and would save him from harm. But at the present moment the question of his expenses is most pressing.

¹ *Junubis*, lit. the Southerners, i.e. the Marathas.

Hopes therefore that Mr Ives and the Nawab Vazir will be given the necessary instructions and advice for his relief.

Has deputed Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad to make certain representations on his behalf to his lordship. His lordship should take it into his serious consideration that the Prince has it not in his power to move in any direction just now as the Marathas hold sway on all sides. Even Bundelkhand is in their possession and their armies are to be found up to the borders of the Sikh territories. Therefore to move from 'this' place is like stepping into the grave. Otherwise, neglected as he is, he would not stay here of his own accord. At Mianganj he had told Mr Johnstone that he would go across the Sikh territories towards Kabul or to the Rajas of the west.¹ But with the advance of the Maratha troops that road is also closed to him. He is therefore compelled to stop here till a road opens for him. Hopes that during his forced stay here his lordship will provide for his expenses. (OR 131; TR 29, pp 195-9, no 179; AR 5, p 24).

May 20. 1203. From the widow of Lachhmi Narayan Qanungo. In the beginning of 1195 Bengali (1788-9 A.D.) she dismissed her old *naib*, Kishan Chand Ray and Madan Mohan, the *peshkar* and appointed Jogeshwar² Mustaufi to the post of *naib*. But the Collector of the district being favourably inclined towards Kishan Chand reinstated him. She has been compelled frequently to address his lordship on the subject of Kishan Chand's conduct and the hardships inflicted upon her by him. One of her representations was referred to Mr Meyers for investigation and report. But no action seems to have been taken yet. Has heard that the Board have determined on the recommendation of the Collector to continue Kishan Chand in his appointment for the year 1196 Bengali also. Pro-

¹ With the permission of the Raja of the 'west' in the vol. of translations is incorrect.

² Bireshwar, brother of Jogeshwar Mustaufi, in no 1175 above.

1789

tests against this decision as it will only bring her disgrace and ruin. She removed Kishan Chand because he sought every opportunity of insulting and distressing her family and did not pay her a single pice from the income of her zamindari. It is her misfortune that he is to be employed again without an enquiry being made into his conduct. Hopes his lordship will approve the appointment of Jogeshwar Mustaufi who has served her family faithfully for 14 years during the lifetime of her husband and also paid the government revenues punctually. The Board (of Revenue) and the Collector of the district may be directed to form the *band-o-bast* of the year 1196 Bengali with Jogeshwar Mustaufi. (OR 132; TR 23, pp 199-201, no 180; AR 5, p 33).

May 20. 1204. From Maharaja Shambhu Chand. On 6 February 1789 a proclamation was issued that the claimants to the zamindari of *pargana* Aukerah should send in their application to the *Diwani Adalat* of the district by 10 March. Accordingly the writer sent his petition to Mr Redfearn, accompanied with a statement of his rights to the zamindari. A *parwana* was issued afterwards from the *Diwani Adalat* of Nadia saying that the zamindari would be conferred on Ishwar Chand and fixing 7 July 1789 as the last date for filing objections and claims. Agreeably to the order the writer sent his petition stating his claims on the zamindari but Mr Redfearn refused to take it saying that the whole contents of it could have been explained in two words. The writer's *wakil* replied that unless the grounds of his claim were stated in the petition how could it be investigated. But the gentleman would not listen. Submits his case therefore to the Governor-General's decision. (OR 133; TR 29, pp 201-2, no 181; AR 5, p 30).

May 20. 1205. From Rai Dip Chand. Intimates that his son aged 12 years died on 10 *Sha'ban* (7 May). He has now no ambition left. Requests that his allowance may be paid to him at Lucknow by the Resident there. Will go to Farrukhabad only when Nawab Diler Jang (Dil Diler

Khan) shall be honoured by his lordship with the management of his country. (*OR 134; TR 29, pp 202-3, no 182; AR 5, p 9*).

May 20. 1206. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is thankful that his lordship does not pay attention to the false and malicious reports of his enemies. Has instructed his *vakil* Raushan Ray, to make several representations and hopes his lordship will give him a hearing. Assures him of his loyalty to engagements. (*OR 135; TR 29, pp 203-4, no 183; AR 5, p 11*).

May 20. 1207. Nawab Faizullah Khan to Uttam Chand, his *vakil* at Lucknow.¹ Has learnt from his letter all about the conversation between him and Mr Ives relative to the affairs of the Kumaun² Hills. The truth is this. When Lal Singh, the brother of Raja Mohan Chand, approached the Khan for assistance he received a blank refusal. So he retired to Rudarpur in the Nawab Vazir's dominions and, collecting together a number of troops who had lost their occupation or were deserters from the other side of the Ganges (army of Ghulam Qadir and others), he marched to the *raj* which has been in his family for about 700 years past. The Khan has nothing to do with this. If any of his people have gone to the assistance of Lal Singh or Mahinder Singh or are stationed with them then he will be to blame and deserve reprimand. Both the Governor-General and the Resident at Lucknow doubtless see through the machinations of his enemies.

All the chiefs and *sardars* of Hindustan entertain troops for the defence and prosperity of their country and if this constitutes a breach of treaty on the part of the writer then he is helpless. He has not engaged to be responsible for all the Hindu and Muhammadan chiefs who may choose to entertain troops in their service. Whoever

¹ Copy delivered at Calcutta by Raushan Ray.

² The most northern division of United Provinces, situated entirely in the Himalayas, and extending from the borders of Tibet to the damp submontane tract known as the Tarai.

collects an army for settling his affairs will not desist at the behest of the Khan nor does his power extend over all the Princes of Hindustan that he can prevent them from acting as they please. None of his people has gone to assist any one and therefore no blame can be laid at his door. The Ganges lies 40 *kos* from the nearest point in his country. He had no power to prevent the Rohillas from crossing over and joining the standard of Lal Singh who was assembling troops at Rudaypur. During the past 16 years he has not set foot outside his territories nor has he taken a single *bigha* of any one's land but has always been obedient to the Governor-General and the Nawab Vazir and will remain so as long as he lives. (OR 136; TR 29, pp 204-6, no 184; AR 5, p 11.

May 20. 1208. From Maharani Saraswati, mother of Maharaja Radha Nath, Zamindar of Pinjrah¹. In 1193 Bengali (1786-7 A.D.) Mr Hatch was appointed Collector to her son's zamindari but he practised such oppressions that her eldest brother, Janki Ram Singh, reported against him. The complaint was investigated by the *Khalisah* and the charges were proved. But unfortunately no action has been taken as a result of the enquiry. Mr Hatch placed Ram Kanta at the head of the zamindari without the assent of the Maharani or her son who have been relegated to the background. In the year 1193 the usual allowance of Rs 1,16,000 for charitable purposes was disallowed by Mr Hatch, and Janki Ram, her brother, and Sadanand, her representative at Calcutta accepted the reduction and by borrowing money paid off the government dues in the hope that the zamindar's *mushahara* would be restored and the settlement would be made through them. But their hopes have been frustrated and they have been thrown into confinement by the *mahajans* for non-payment of their dues. The writer is also deprived of her zamindari without allowance or compensation. As she and her son lack the means to go to Calcutta in order to submit their case personally to his

¹ Old name of the zamindari of Dinajpur.

1789

lordship they have authorised Janki Ram and Sadanand to make representations on their behalf. Requests that they may be appointed to manage the zamindari and that the aforesaid Ram Kanta may be dismissed. The latter has no experience of this line of business while her brother as well as Sadanand managed the zamindari creditably after the death of her husband, the late Maharaja Baijnath¹. (OR 137; TR 29, pp 206-8, no 185; AR 5, p 27).

May 20. 1209. From Maharaja Radha Nath, Zamindar of Dinajpur. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 138; TR 29, p 208, no 186; AR 5, p 27).

May 20. 1210. From Saiyid Nasrullah, *vakil* of Nawab Ali Azim Khan. The sum of Rs 4,166-10-3, being the amount of the certificates granted to his constituent on account of his allowance for January to April 1786 in respect of his *jagir* in the district of Benares, is long overdue. Mr James Grant says that the certificates are not registered in his books and he cannot therefore discharge them. He suggests that application should be made either to Mr Hardinge² or to Mr Larkin for the money. Requests therefore that necessary orders may be issued to these gentlemen for payment. (OR 139; TR 29, pp 208-9, no 187; AR 5, p 2).

May 25. 1211. To Bhao Bakhshi. Has received his letter complaining against one Kishan Parshad, an inhabitant of Benares, who has unjustly dispossessed Swami Shivanand Saraswati, his religious preceptor, of the villages of Patarwa and Hansody in *pargana* Sheopur and has been misappropriating the income of those places for the last three years. Says that agreeably to his request the Governor-General has written to Mr Duncan to enquire into the matter and restore the property to its lawful

¹ He was the son of Raja Ramnath of Dinajpur. After his father's death he succeeded to the zamindari of Dinajpur in 1760 A.D. He died in 1780 A.D.

² William Hardinge, Civil Paymaster at Calcutta. (1783-1790?).

owner. (*CI* 20, pp 517-18, no 134; *TI* 35, p 57, no 92; *AR* 5, p 36).

May 27. 1212. From Raghuji Bhonsla. Has received his lordship's letter containing assurances of friendship. Bishambhar Pandit must have informed his lordship how the writer set out for Poona at the invitation of the Peshwa and his ministers and how he met them on 24 *Jumada* II, when he was received with the usual ceremonies which are observed on such occasions. His lordship was right in detaining Hari Bhadar Pandit in order to administer comfort and solace to Beniram Pandit in his sad bereavement. Has written letters of condolence to Beniram and is certain that his lordship also must have given him every possible comfort. (*OR* 140; *TR* 29, pp 369-10, no 188; *AR* 5, p 28).

May 27. 1213. From Mahanand. Is exceedingly distressed for want of employment during the past eight years. Requests a recommendation to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to provide him with a suitable employment. Requests also a letter to Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan desiring him to find out and punish the culprit who destroyed his Devi (image of goddess Durga). (*OR* 141; *TR* 29, pp 210-11, no 189; *AR* 5, p 298).

May 27. 1214. From Manohar Das. Has received his lordship's letter saying that he must have finished his pilgrimage by now and most likely he was now on his way back to Calcutta. Says that he arrived here safely and paid a visit to the temple of Jagannath. But the most propitious time for worshipping the god which comes but once a year will arrive in the next few days' time. So he intends to join in that worship also. Besides this Rajaram Pandit invites him to his place. Desires therefore to stay on here for some time more. (*OR* 142; *TR* 29, pp 211-12, no 190; *AR* 5, p 209).

May ... 1215. *Advertisement.* Considerable quantities of foreign salt having been lately imported into Bengal under the pretence of its being Muscat Rock Salt intended

for medicinal purposes only, notice is hereby given that after 1 November next no salt under the denomination of Muscat salt will be allowed to be imported into Bengal, Bihar and such part of Orissa as is under the dominion of the Company unless it is accompanied by a certificate from the officers of the customs at Muscat or Bombay about its being the produce of Muscat.

That no more than 200 maunds of the above salt will be allowed to be imported in any one vessel coming from Bombay and 500 maunds from Muscat.

That if any salt of the above denomination is attempted to be imported in defiance of the above restrictions, such salt will be confiscated and disposed of at a public sale.

That if any salt whatever (Muscat salt excepted) not being the produce of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa is attempted to be imported into these territories, without the express sanction of the Governor-General in Council, it shall also be confiscated and disposed of at a public sale agreeably to the general prohibition issued against the importation of foreign salt. (*CI 20, pp 521-2, no 141*).

Jun. 1. 1213. *Dastak*. A present of mangoes from the Governor-General to the Nawab Vazir is being sent from Malda towards Benares. It should be allowed to pass without hindrance. (*CI 20, p 518, nos 135-6*).

Jun. 1. 1217. *Dastak* granted to Mr Mercer's domestic servants who are going overland from Calcutta to Hyderabad. They should be allowed to pass without let or hindrance. (*CI 20, p 519, no 137*).

Jun. 2. 1218. To Rajaram Pandit, *Subadar* of Orissa. Informs him that the servants of Mr Mercer are proceeding overland from Calcutta to Hyderabad. They are taking horses and provisions with them. Requests the addressee therefore to provide them with the necessaries that they may require on their journey through his territory. (*CI 20, p 520, no 138; TI 35, p 57, no 93; AR 5, p 52*).

- Jun. 2. 1219. To Manohar Das Sahu. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 520, no 139; *TI* 35, p 57, no 40; *AR* 5, p 47).
- Jun. 2. 1220. To Rai Dip Chand. Condoles with him on the death of his son and informs him that as the arrangement relating to his salary have already been made, his present request for its payment at Lucknow cannot be complied with. (*CI* 20, pp 520-1, no 140; *TI* 35, pp 57-8, no 95; *AR* 5, p 40).
- Jun. 3. 1221. From the Nawab Vazir. Some time ago he complained against the conduct of Mr Arnot and requested his lordship to recall him from his territories. Consequently his lordship issued an order asking Mr Arnot to leave 'this' place by 1 June. Says that the gentleman has now mended his behaviour and the Nawab is satisfied that he will not act contrary to his wishes. Requests that the order for recalling him (Mr Arnot) may be cancelled. Should he misbehave again the Nawab will order him to quit his territories allowing him one month's time to do so. (*TR* 29, p 212, no 191; *AR* 5, p 31).
- Jun. 3. 1222. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. The Governor-General is aware of the distressed situation of the *Nizamat* and of the enormous hardship he has been labouring under in maintaining himself and a large number of his dependants with an inadequate allowance. From the time he has been personally attending to the affairs of the *Nizamat* and to its receipts and disbursements, he has been trying, on a systematic basis, to discharge the old debts after meeting the necessary expenses and paying the wages to the servants of the *Nizamat*. In fact, he has already paid off large sums of money in liquidation of the old debts. Notwithstanding all this, the stipends of certain people, as shown on a separate sheet enclosed are not paid from the *Nizamat* Treasury but are drawn direct from Mr Speke, who pays them separately without making the usual deductions on account of the drafts etc. Such preferential treatment is bound to disturb the plan for the discharge of his debts the amount of which

runs into lakhs of rupees. Hopes that in consideration of the cordial relations existing between them his lordship will order Mr Speke not to pay the dependants of the Nizam direct and will favour the writer with an explicit reply to his request.

Enclosure.—Account of the *tankhwa* of Manjhli Begam¹, etc. up to *Phagun* 1195 B.S. (1788-9 A.D.).

Names	Monthly allowance	Period for which due	Total due	Deduct drafts	Balance	Paid	Excess paid
	Rs.	M	Rs.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
Manjhli Begam, etc. from <i>Magh</i> 1194 to <i>Phagun</i> 1195 B.S.	300	14	7,000	350 0	6,650 0	...	...
Ashraf-un-Nisa Begam from <i>Chait</i> 1194 to <i>Phagun</i> 1195 B.S.	57	12	684	34 4	649 12	...	...
Family of Mir Muta'az from <i>Chait</i> 1194 to <i>Phagun</i> 1195 B.S.	15	12	180	9 0	171 0	...	...
Sayyid Jafar-ud-Din Ali from <i>Chait</i> 1194 to <i>Phagun</i> 1195 B.S.	181	11	1,991	99 9	1,891 7	...	...
TOTAL	753	...	9,555	492 13	9,062	11,525	2,462 13
Bahu Begam (Umdatun- Nisa) from <i>Magh</i> 1194 to <i>Phagun</i> 1195 B.S.	325	14	4,550	227 8	4,322 8	7,650	3,327 8
Sayyid Khadim Ali Khan from <i>Magh</i> 1194 to <i>Phagun</i> 1195 B.S.	300	14	4,200	210 0	3,990 0	6,300	2,310 0
GRAND TOTAL	1,378	...	18,605	930 5	17,674 11	25,975	8,300 5

(TR 29, pp 212-14, no 192; AR 5, p 19).

- Jun. 3. 1223. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has transmitted several *arzis* through his *vakil*, Raushan Ray, stating the full particulars of 'this' quarter. Professes friendship and sincere attachment to the Company and his lordship. (TR 29, p 215, no 193; AR 5, p 11).
- Jun. 5. 1224. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter. Says that agreeably to his request he has written to Mr Ives cancelling the order served on Mr Arnot to leave Lucknow by 1 June. Is glad to learn from the Nawab that Mr Arnot has mended his conduct and that

¹ Nafasatun-Nisa Begam, sister of Nawab Jafar Ali Khan.

1789

it is presumed that he would not again act contrary to the wishes of the Nawab. Should he be guilty of similar misconduct in future the Nawab will give him one month's notice for quitting Lucknow, and send word to Mr Ives about this. Assures the Nawab that his Lordship will always be ready to give him all possible satisfaction. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (CI 20, pp 358-60, no 33; TI 35, pp 58-9, no 96; AR 5, p 55).

- Jun. 7. 1225. *Intelligence*¹ from Hyderabad, dated 19 May 1789. A newspaper from Poona dated 29 Rajab (24 April 1789) reported that Raghuji Bhonsla was to take leave of the Peshwa that day after engaging to pay twenty-five lakhs of rupees on condition of his being put in possession of Garh Mandla². It was also agreed that Khandoji Bhonsla would be stationed with 3,000 horse in the Peshwa's presence and the office of *peshkar* to Raghuji was to be given to Vyankoji Bhonsla³. Raghuji Bhonsla also visited Hari Pant to take leave of him and the latter permitted him to go but asked him to leave behind his *munshi* as there were several matters to be settled. The *munshi* on hearing this told Raghuji that by leaving him

¹ Received as an enclosure from the Resident at Hyderabad.

² Garha, a place four miles to the west of Jubbulpore city, was once the capital of the Gond dynasty of Garha Mandla Kingdom. In the 16th century the capital was moved to Mandla. The Garha Mandla Kingdom was a petty chiefship till 1450. In 1564 Asaf Khan invaded the territory and the famous Rani Durgavati, then acting as regent for her minor son, met him and was defeated. From that time the fortunes of the Mandla Kingdom rapidly declined. In 1742 the Peshwa invaded Mandla and exacted *chauth*. In 1781 the last king of the Gond Rajput line was deposed and Mandla was annexed to the Maratha government of Saugor, then under the control of the Peshwa. In 1793 Mandla was appropriated by the Bhonsla Rajas of Nagpur in accordance with a treaty concluded some years previously with the Peshwa. In 1818 Mandla became British territory. It is now a district in the Jubbulpore Division of the Central Provinces and the town of Mandla is situated 60 miles south east of Jubbulpore by road.—*Imperial Gazetteer of India*.

³ Vyankoji Bhonsla (Manyu Bapu or Nana Sahib), brother of Raghuji Bhonsla had the charge of the southern districts of Nagpur State at the time of his father's (Mudhoji's) death. Raghuji, on his accession to the throne conferred on him the districts of Chanda and Chhattisgarh in *jagir*. Vyankoji died in 1811 A.D. Raghuji Bhonsla had also favourite *musahib* of the same name. Duff, James Grant: *A History of the Marhattas*, vol. III; Wills, C.U. *British Relations with the Nagpur State in the 18th Century*.

behind his affairs would not be expedited and that it would be advisable to have every matter settled in his own presence. Next morning Raghuji went to Hari Pant and desired him to allow his *munshi* to accompany him. Hari Pant said that Nana Farnavis was not in favour of his taking leave, though he (Hari Pant) had tried his best to obtain it for him. He further added that if he (Raghuji) was desirous that every matter should be adjusted in his presence, he should not leave immediately. Balaji Pandit (Nana Farnavis) told Raghuji Bhonsla that he and his *munshi* could be granted leave if he agreed to the following terms.

1. Raghuji Bhonsla should give the security of a banker for 10 lakhs of rupees, being the balance of 25 lakhs of rupees on account of *nazrana*.

2. After being put in full possession of Garh Mandla Raghuji Bhonsla shall station Khandoji Bhonsla with 3,000 horse in the Peshwa's presence. If he fails to do that he should pay the amount of the *tankhwah* for 3,000 horse to the Poona government.

3. Raghuji Bhonsla shall pay 3 lakhs of rupees to the Peshwa on account of *desmukhi*¹ for several *mahals* in Berar.

4. Raghuji Bhonsla should give security for two *qists* due from Salabat Khan² for the payment of which he had stood surety.

5. Raghuji Bhonsla shall pay the *nazrana* on account of the bestowal of the office of *peshkar* on Vyankoji Bhonsla and of his (Raghuji's) being put in possession of Garh Mandla.

¹ The fees or perquisites levied by *desmukh*, or on his account.

² Salabat Khan, Governor of Ellichpur, was the son of Ismail Khan, who was the deputy of Ali Jah Bihadur. Though Salabat Khan remained only two years between 1790 and 1792 at Ellichpur, yet he did much to improve the city. He enlarged the palace, made a public garden and extended the ancient water-channels. He was a brave soldier, and on war breaking out between the Nizam and Tipu Sultan, he joined the army, and distinguished himself in the field. He also saw service at the battle of Kardla and was with General Wellesley's army in 1803.—*Imperial Gazetteer of India*, vol. XII.

On hearing the terms Raghuji Bhonsla became displeased and returned to his tent. He intends to go to a village, 3 *kos* from the Kistna in order to perform the *shadh* ceremony of his father Mudhoji Bhonsla, and then he will return to Poona to settle the terms. The 10th of *Sha'ban* was fixed for his departure.

A newspaper dated 10 *Sha'ban* reported that information had been received from Seringapatam that Tipu Sultan after settling the affairs of Calicut had marched back to his capital. A few days later, on learning of the insurrection of the zamindars in Payanghat he again set out for Calicut. It was said that all zamindars have agreed to act in such a manner that the Sultan should get no time for rest in any one place. Whenever he (Tipu Sultan) threatens them with a large army they take shelter on boats and in the hills. All the insurgents have the support of the Malevar Raja¹. (*TR* 29, pp 215-17, no 194; *AR* 5, p 14).

Jun. 7. 1226. *Intelligence*² from Hyderabad. On 4 *Sha'ban* (1 May 1789) Mumtazul-Umara waited on the Nizam and apprised him of the return of messengers who were sent to Tipu Sultan. He also reported that they had brought a letter from him rejecting the offer of a marriage in his family³. Tipu had written that he was not inferior

¹ Ravi Varmma of the Zamorin's house seems to be meant, *vide* Logan: *Malabar*, p 452. The term Malevar is loosely applied to mean Travancore also.

² Received as an enclosure from the Resident at Hyderabad.

³ The common impression is that the Nizam had refused a matrimonial alliance with Tipu Sultan because he thought it derogatory for his children to be married into an upstart's family. But from the records calendared here it would appear that when the Nizam first sent Hafiz Faridud-Din to Tipu Sultan he himself proposed the marriage of his son with Tipu's daughter but Tipu did not agree (no 251). He however sent a counter proposal, probably of his son's marriage with the Nizam's daughter, through his envoy who came with Faridud-Din to Hyderabad. The offer was rejected as mentioned by Wilks. When Faridud-Din was deputed a second time to Tipu Sultan (no 896) he seemed to have proposed, at the instance of the Nizam, reciprocal marriage between the families but Tipu Sultan would not listen to the proposal as the Nizam was at the same time engaged in negotiating a treaty with the English which was to all intents and purposes the revival of an offensive alliance against Tipu's power.

to the Nizam in any respect but a marriage alliance on both sides lost all significance when a *vakil* had been sent by the Nizam to negotiate with the Europeans in order to bring down troops¹. The Nizam did not realise what trouble this would give rise to. There was no necessity of ceding territories² to the Europeans and it was useless to seek the assistance of unbelievers. (*TR* 29, pp 217-18, no 195; *AR* 5, p 14).

Jun. 8. 1227. *Mir Abul Qasim to the Persian Translator to the Governor-General.* Agreeably to the addressee's note transmits the two bills of exchange for Rs 51,000. Requests that Rs 26,000 may be paid to him at Calcutta and Rs 25,000 at Benares where he has to purchase certain things ordered by the Nizam. Requests also that the whole amount may be paid in rupee coins as he sustained loss on the former bills which were partly paid in rupee coins and partly in gold mohurs. (*TR* 29, p 218, no 196).

Jun. 9. 1228. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Says that Capt. Kennaway spoke to the Nizam about appointing *dak* messengers. After much hesitation the Nizam agreed to depute his own *harkaras* to attend on the Captain for the execution of the Company's business. The Captain has postponed this business until he receives his lordship's orders on the subject. (*TR* 29, pp 218-19, no 197; *AR* 5, p 22).

Jun. 9.³ 1229. To Harendra Narayan, Maharaja of Cooch Behar. Says that understanding from the reports of the Commissioners as well as from his '*arzi*' that the affairs of his country were in a state of confusion in consequence of his minority, his lordship, in order to protect the interests

¹ Obviously the reference is to the deputation of Mir Abul Qasim at Calcutta for settling the Guntur accounts and concluding an alliance with the Europeans.

² Cession of Guntur seems to be meant.

³ July 4, according to the vol. of translations.

1789

of the Maharaja, deputed Mr Douglas¹ to Cooch Behar to take upon himself the exclusive management of the Maharaja's territory of Cooch Behar and the *chaklas* of Boda, Purubbhag² and Patgram.³ The gentleman has been authorised to collect the revenue thereof. Out of the collection he will pay the tribute of Cooch Behar and the revenue of the aforesaid *chaklas* and an allowance of Rs 500 per month to the Nazir Deo, and after supplying the expenses of the Maharaja's household, he will keep the surplus in trust until further orders. Assures him that in assuming the temporary management of the Maharaja's affairs it is not the intention of his lordship to increase the amount of the tribute payable by him nor to deprive him of the rights and privileges guaranteed to him by the treaty of 1772 but to save his country from falling into ruin by the machinations of designing men. Will restore to the Maharaja the full management of his territories as soon as he will be capable of taking over the charge of his affairs. Asks him therefore to carry out implicitly all the orders that he may receive from his lordship through Mr Douglas. (*CI* 20, pp 522-3, no 142; *TI* 35, pp 63-4, no 106; *AR* 5, p 39).

Jun. 9.³ **1230.** To the Maharani of Cooch Behar. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, pp 522-3, no 142; *TI* 35, pp 63-4, no 107; *AR* 5, p 39).

Jun. 10. **1231.** From Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Says that in consideration of the friendship and intimacy subsisting between him and the English he is desirous of residing in the Company's territories under the protection of his lordship. Since his arrival at Benares he has wanted to purchase the garden which was allotted to him for his residence but he could not do so as the proprietors of the

¹ Henry Douglas was the first Commissioner of Cooch Behar appointed in 1789 for superintending the affairs of the minor Maharaja, Harendra Narayan. He was succeeded by C. A. Bruce in 1791. Calica Dutt: *Cooch Behar*.

² *Chakla* in Rangpur.

³ July 4, according to the vol. of translations.

1789

garden were not willing to sell it. Has now purchased it for Rs 33,000 with their consent. Hopes to be honoured with frequent letters. (*TR* 29, pp 219-20, no 198; *AR* 5, p 29).

Jun. 10. **1232.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has learnt from the letter of Mir Kamalud-Din Husain Khan that his lordship has asked the writer to lend a place in the neighbourhood of Chunakhali¹ for the use of the Company until a hospital is built at Berhampore. Says that the garden of Chunwanpur² which he owns in that neighbourhood is placed unreservedly at his lordship's disposal. Col. Knudson³ has been informed accordingly. (*TR* 29, p 220, no 199; *AR* 5, p 19).

Jun. 10. **1233.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Informs his lordship that his daughter's marriage with Nawab Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan was solemnised on 4 *Ramazan*. As the Khan shares his affection with the rest of his children, hopes that his lordship will show him the distinction he merits and will bestow upon him additional marks of his favour. (*TR* 29, pp 220-1, no 200; *AR* 5, p 19).

Jun. 10. **1234.** To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his several letters on the subject of the arrears of his stipend during the period of Mr Pott's residency. Asks him to submit an account of the sums received by the Nawab through that gentleman so that his lordship may examine his claim without further delay. (*CI* 20, p 524, no 144; *TI* 35, p 59, no 97; *AR* 5, p 46).

Jun. 12. **1235.** From Dil Diler Khan. Says that since his arrival at Benares he has been passing his life in peace and quiet under his lordship's protection. Is also receiving his allowance and that of Rai Dip Chand regularly. Has learnt that the Rai under the influence of the people of

¹ An old suburb of Murshidabad, a little to the north of Maidapur village, which is situated 3 miles east of Berhampore. *Murshidabad District Gazetteer*.

² A place near Chunakhali, Murshidabad.

³ For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 25, f.n. 1.

Farrukhabad has addressed an *'arzi* to his lordship without the knowledge of the writer requesting permission to reside at Lucknow. His lordship is aware of the fact that when his salary was fixed it was determined that he should reside with the writer at Benares. Now that he wishes to reside at Lucknow, it would appear that he is desirous of deserting him. Depends solely upon the support of the Company and has therefore written this for his lordship's information. (*TR* 29, pp 221-2, no 201).

- Jun. 13.* **1236.** From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Has transmitted several letters to his lordship through Raushan Ray and hopes that he has received them. Although he learns all about his lordship's health from his *vakil* yet his mind is not satisfied until he receives a letter from him. Encloses the copy of a letter from the Nawab Vazir asking him to aid and assist Raja Mohan Chand of Kumaun. Hopes that his lordship will pay no heed to the malicious representations of his enemies but will adopt some measures to check their intrigues in future. (*TR* 29, p 222, no 202; *AR* 5, p 11).
- Jun. 13.* **1237.** *Dastak.* A boat laden with one piece of cannon is proceeding from Calcutta to Lucknow for Nawab Asafud-Daulah. It should be allowed to pass without hindrance. (*CI* 20, p 524, no 145).
- Jun. 15.* **1238.** From Muhammad Riza Khan. Sends a present of mangoes. (*TR* 29, pp 222-3, no 203; *AR* 5, p 21).
- Jun. 15.* **1239.** From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Is very glad to receive his lordship's letter in reply to her several *shuqqas* and to read in it all about his health and his anxiety for her well-being. Hopes to be favoured with frequent letters. (*TR* 29, p 223, no 204; *AR* 5, p 16).
- Jun. 15.* **1240.** To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his several letters through his *vakil*, Raushan Ray, contradicting the misrepresentations of his enemies and giving a detailed account of the activities of the brother

and the son of Raja Mohan Chand. Says that the Company stood guarantee between the Nawab Vazir and the addressee for the due observance of their treaty by which the latter bound himself to keep a specified number of troops in his service and to refrain from affording assistance to insurgents from the Nawab Vazir's dominions. That the Nawab has enjoyed the peaceful possession of his territory for so long a period is a positive proof of the Nawab Vazir's strict adherence to his part of the treaty and it would certainly cause uneasiness to the Governor-General, if he is obliged to interfere in any way on account of deviations on the part of the Nawab. Has received the papers delivered by his *vakil* and has also heard from Mr Ives the particulars of the conversation he has had with the Nawab's *vakil* at Lucknow on the subject of the brother and son of Raja Mohan Chand, deceased. However much the Governor-General might be convinced of the Nawab's attachment to the Company and his adherence to the stipulation of the treaty, he cannot but consider that in this particular instance the Nawab has not been strictly consistent with his conduct in the past. Is convinced however that these events have taken place without his concurrence but, as a well-wisher of the Nawab and his family, advises him to take such suitable measures as will prevent the recurrence of similar events in future. (CI 20, pp 360-3, no 34; TI 35, pp 59-61, no 98; AR 5, p 41).

Jun. 17. 1241. From Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Complimentary, expressing satisfaction at the attention shown by the Nawab Vazir and Mr Ives. (TR 29, pp 223-4, no 205; AR 5, p 20).

Jun. 17. 1242. From 'Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam. Says that she is entitled to a sum of Rs 1,778-8-0 on account of the income of her *jagir* and a sum of Rs 250-15-18½ *gandas* in respect of her monthly allowance payable from the collections of Krishnagar. Mr Redfearn paid the *qists* of each up to the month of *Baisakh* 1196 Bengali. When she sent her agent to collect the *qist* of *Jeth* the said gentle-

1789

man told him that the monthly allowance had been stopped and that no money would be paid on that account. States that the *jagir* and the allowance were assigned to her by the Company under a *sanad* which she still holds in her possession. Hopes therefore that his lordship will direct Mr Redfearn to pay to her the amount of the *qists* as heretofore. Says further that Mr Redfearn makes the payment of her allowance in *sanawati*¹ rupees, though the *sicca* coin is current all over the country. Requests him also to direct the said gentleman to make the payment in current coins. (TR 29, pp 224-5, no 206; AR 5, p 5).

Jun. 17. 1243. 1. *Maharaja Raghaji Bhonsla to Bishambhar Pandit*². At Amraoti³ he received the Governor-General's letter along with one from the addressee and another from Hari Bhadar Pandit. Has already written all the particulars regarding the departure of Messrs Forster and Rind and Lala Dharm Chand. Says that after several days' march he arrived in Berar and having settled several matters there he continued his journey and reached Poona. On 4 *Jumada II* (2 March) an interview, in the old established form, took place between him and the Peshwa and every day the customary presents are being exchanged between them. Will communicate to him whatever negotiations take place between him and the Peshwa.

The Maharaja has also learnt all about the addressee's conversation with the Governor-General relating to several matters which were entrusted to him. The writer is desirous of maintaining the cordial relations existing between him and the English and it is his wish that the practice, hitherto followed by both the governments, of communicating to each other all the important events occurring on either side, should be kept up. An answer

¹ A. old coin current at depreciated rate after a certain number of years.

² This and the following two letters were delivered by Bishambhar Pandit.

³ Town and District in Berar.

to the *kharita*, forwarded by the addressee, has been sent mentioning his (the Maharaja's) arrival at Poona. For further particulars refers him to the letters of Munshi Bhawani Pandit (Naganath).

It is highly proper that Hari Bhadar Pandit should stop at Benares to attend on Beniram Pandit who is grieved on account of the death of his son. Desires him also to try to alleviate his affliction. Has sent a letter of condolence to Beniram Pandit. Dated 13 *Jumada* II 1203 A.H. (11 March 1789).

II. *Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla to Bishambhar Pandit.*¹ Says that Baba Dikshit Upaddhaya and others have reached Benares to perform their pilgrimage there. They met Beniram Pandit and forwarded the letter to the addressee and the *kharita* to the Governor-General but received no answer from his lordship. Requests that they may be exempted from paying the duties. The *gayawals*² who have gone with them are inclined to be quarrelsome but let not the pilgrims be harassed. Dated 29 *Jumada* II 1203 A.H. (27 March 1789).

III. *Munshi Bhawani Pandit to Bishambhar Pandit.* Acknowledges the receipt of his letters which were received at Amraoti and is glad to learn from them that he laid before the Governor-General the particulars of several matters that were communicated to him. Has also received his lordship's letter saying that he is desirous of maintaining the intimate friendship that existed between the Company and Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla.

Hari Bhadar Pandit, who is staying at Benares to soothe and comfort Beniram Pandit, has sent presents to the Maharaja through Lala Dharm Chand. The addressee should also try to alleviate his (Beniram Pandit's)

¹ This and the following letters were written from Poona.

² Brahmins of a class or tribe which claim the privilege of conducting the ceremonies of the pilgrimage at Gaya and receiving fees for the same. They also officiate as conductors of pilgrims to the city of Gaya.

grief. Lala Dharm Chand has arrived here and has delivered the presents through Mr Forster who has since taken leave of the Maharaja. Hopes that he has passed Benares by this time and is on his way to Calcutta.

Some time ago it was intimated to the addressee that letters had been received from Poona inviting the Maharaja to pay a visit to that place. Consequently the Maharaja set out towards that quarter and reached there on 24 *Jumada* II (22 March). There he had a meeting with the Peshwa and all the pomp and ceremonies of respect and attention were interchanged. Mr Malet, the Resident at the Court of the Peshwa on the part of the Governor-General, paid a visit to the Maharaja and was received with proper ceremonies. The Maharaja will pay a return visit to him.

Some time ago letters of condolence were written to Beniram Pandit and now more letters have been written to him on the same subject. The writer has received intimation of the arrival of the wheat¹ at Benares and hopes that it has reached Calcutta by this time.

It is reported that the uncle (Akbar Ali Khan) of the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) who was living in Benares, has brought the deceased's son to Hyderabad. He has eight or ten elephants and about one thousand followers with him. Is surprised that the addressee did not write anything about these particulars. Asks him to enquire and find out the cause of his coming to the Nizam. Dated 18 *Rajab*=15 April. (*TR* 29, pp 225-9, no 207; *AR* 5, p 4).

Jun. 19. **1244.** To Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Condoles with him on the death of his son. (*CI* 20, p 524, no 146; *TI* 35, p 61, no 99; *AR* 5, p 42).

Jun. 19. **1245.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has received his two letters. In the one the Nawab has expressed his

¹ *Vide* no 1040 above.

willingness to lend his garden house at Chunwanpur for the accommodation of sick troops until such time as a hospital for the purpose is constructed at Berhampore. In the other he notifies the marriage of his daughter with Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, the brother of Saiyid Ali Khan, the Nawab of Dacca. Congratulates the addressee on this happy occasion. (CI 20, p 525, no 147; TI 35, pp 61-2, no 199; AR 5, p 45).

Jun. 19. 1246. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter accompanying the present of sweet mangoes sent through Saiyid Hikmat Maab Khan. Thanks him for this mark of friendship and asks him to write now and then. (CI 20, p 525, no 148; TI 35, p 62, no 191; AR 5, p 46).

Jun. 20. 1247. From Sharafud-Din Ali Khan. Says that he is the son of the late Nawab Ashraf Ali Khan who was the son of Nawab Jafar Ali Khan deceased. Manjhli Begam (Nafasatun-Nisa), sister of late Nawab Jafar Ali Khan, adopted his father as her son and bestowed the *faujdari* (of Murshidabad) on him with a monthly salary of Rs 1,000. On his death the writer succeeded to this appointment and held it till the Council determined to have it conducted by their own officers. Still he was allowed the salary above-mentioned but a short time afterwards the Governor-General reduced his salary to Rs 700 and later to Rs 400. Even this sum is not paid to him in full and due to this act of injustice he was prompted to accompany the Begam (Manjhli) last year to Calcutta to represent his affairs to his lordship. But several of the Nawab's (Mubarakud-Daulah's) confidential friends deceived him by false promises and persuaded him to seek the protection of the Nawab. This he did and was for some time treated with consideration and received many favours from him. He then ventured to represent his situation to the Nawab who after a long time gave him a reply which was very disappointing. In this unfortunate predicament he thought of throwing himself on his lordship's

support and consequently hastened to Calcutta to represent his affairs. On his arrival there he sought an interview with his lordship through Mr Cherry who refused to comply with his request telling him that the writer could not be introduced to his lordship as he had come to Calcutta without the Nawab's (Mubarakud-Daulah's) permission. The Nawab's *vakil*, Mir Kamalud-Din Husain Khan, assured the writer in the most solemn manner that the Nawab would look to his interests and advised him to return to Murshidabad. As he had come to Calcutta without the essential requirements of life and as Mr Cherry seemed determined in his refusal to allow an interview, he listened to the *vakil's* advice and returned to Murshidabad. Since then he anxiously expected the fulfilment of the promises made by the *vakil*, but in stead of improving his situation he has now become more wretched than ever. When none of the grandsons of Jafar Ali Khan receives less than Rs 1,000 monthly, why his pittance of Rs 400 is not paid to him in full? Requests his lordship that in future his allowance may be paid through Mr Speke so that he may receive it without any unfair deductions or, alternatively, he may be allowed to remove to some other part of the country so that he may not suffer by contrast with his brethren and family. (TR 29, pp 229-32, no 208; AR 5, p 29).

Jun. 21. 1248. From Prince¹ Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Says that ever since he arrived at Lucknow he received no encouragement either from Mr Ives or from the Nawab Vazir. The latter, in fact, has done nothing for him. He came 'here' in the hope of obtaining assistance from his lordship but received no favour from any quarter. Neither the Vazir nor Mr Ives will do anything without his lordship's permission. It is therefore incumbent on the addressee to write immediately to them (the Vazir and Mr Ives) to pay their respects to him (the Prince).

¹ This letter was delivered by Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad Khan.

The Governor-General is fully aware of the situation of His Majesty in consequence of the rebellion of Ghu'lam Qadir Khan. Conformably to His Majesty's orders and relying on the support of his lordship and the Nawab Vazir he resolved to come to Lucknow, although he lacked the essential requirements of the journey. On his arrival 'here' he and his followers experienced nothing but distress and hunger. Although it is very humiliating for him to write in this manner, yet he has no alternative. Counts solely upon the support of his lordship and accordingly requests him to ask the Vazir and Mr Ives to fix some allowance for his expenses. Hopes that his request will be acceded to without delay. (*TR* 29, pp 232-3, no 209; *AR* 5, p 24).

Jun. 22. **1249.** (1) *The Resident at Murshidabad to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah*¹. Encloses a statement and copies of *pattas* relating to Mr McGowan's² property for the Nawab's perusal. Hopes to be favoured with an answer containing all the particulars.

(2) *The Resident at Murshidabad to Munni Begam.* To the same effect as the foregoing.

(3) *Statement of the Resident about the place.* In the month of April 1781 Lt.-Col. McGowan purchased a piece of land with buildings on it, situated at Muradbagh,³ commonly called Qadam Rasul, from M. Ross,⁴ Dutch Governor of Chinsura. At that time the army was marching from Bengal to the Carnatic and as the Colonel accom-

¹ These letters were received as enclosures from the Resident at Murshidabad on 21 September 1788 and were transferred to the Persian Office on 22 June 1789.

² John McGowan joined the Bengal Army in 1767. Captain 1771. Colonel 1788. Dodwell and Miles: *Indian Army List*.

³ An old place in Murshidabad on the west bank of the river Bhagirathi. Here stands the place in which Lord Clive stayed after the battle of Plassey. This was also used as a Residency for many years.—*Murshidabad District Gazetteer*.

⁴ Johannes Matthias Ross was Dutch Director at Hooghly during 1777-81 and also for sometime chief of Cossimbazar Dutch Factory in 1779.—*I.R.D. : Press Lists of Public Records*.

panied it he could not inspect the land. In 1783 he returned from the Carnatic and went to Muradbagh to visit the place. He found that Mayaram *jamadar*, a servant of the *Nizam*, who had the charge of the *ganj* belonging to Munni Begam, had taken possession of a considerable portion of the land. Accordingly he wrote a letter to Sir John D'oyly, the then Resident, requesting him to eject the *jamadar* from the land in question. Sir John D'oyly immediately sent his own *Diwan* to measure and ascertain the boundaries of the land. The *Diwan* in the presence of a large number of people measured the land, ascertained the boundaries and fixed up the marks. The *jamadar*, in the Colonel's absence, wilfully removed the marks and threw them into the Colonel's house. As the Colonel had gone to England for reasons of health no notice was taken of the conduct of the *jamadar*. On his return to Murshidabad, the Colonel learnt that the *jamadar* was dead and his son was in possession of the land. He therefore wrote to Mr Pott to give him the possession of the land in conformity with the Nawab's (Mubarakud-Daulah's) *patta*. Mr Pott wrote to him in reply that the Nawab also approved of this business, but it was Munni Begam who was procrastinating the settlement. Consequently the Colonel has addressed a letter to the Council requesting that if the Nawab's *patta* be valid, the *jamadar* should be compelled by Court to return all the money and profits he had derived from the land by keeping it in his possession. But if the Nawab or the Begam be inclined to resume the land, they may repay him the original price and whatever money he has expended on it.

(4) *Patta granted under the seal of Nawab Mubarakud Daulah*. Whereas Captain¹ with his own free will and consent has sold and relinquished to Mynheer Johannes Matthias Ross, Director of the Dutch Company a garden and a house and two *katthas*² of rent free land,

¹ The space is left blank in the vol. of translations.

² *Kattha*, H. a measure of land, the twentieth part of the Bengal *bigha*, containing 80 square yards or 720 sq. ft.

situated at Mansurganj¹ in *pargana* Chunakhali, *khas* taluk, with coccanut and mango trees etc., the same are made over to the said Director at the fixed annual rent of Rs. 50 inclusive of *abwab*². The said Director will build houses and improve the said lands, pay the revenue agreeably to instalment, and with his heirs and successors keep possession of the lands now held by the Captain. Should he be inclined to sell or grant these places and trees thereon to another, he shall be free to do so, except that he shall have no authority over the *masjid* or lands appertaining thereto, which are situated on the aforesaid property. Dated 25 *Muharram*, 22nd year of the reign (23 January 1781).

(5) *Munni Begam to the Resident*.³ Has received his letter accompanying the *patta* and statement relating to the boundary of the land that pertains to Bibiganj. Says that formerly there was a dispute about the boundary between the Captain (Mr McGowan) and Mayaram, the deceased *jamadar*, who was the farmer of Bibiganj. It was at length settled and to prevent further disputes, a ditch was dug to mark off the boundary so that one side belonged to the Captain and the other to the *ganj*. Then M. Ross, the Dutch Chief, purchased the land and the buildings from the Captain and procured a *patta* for them without his knowledge. Later the Captain took back the land though she does not know how he managed to do so, except that he frequently related this matter to Sir John D'oyly and Mr Pott, when he was at Murshidabad and to Mr John Macpherson and Col. Macpherson,⁴ when he was at Calcutta. On an enquiry from the said gentle-

¹ A place in the neighbourhood of Murshidabad. Here there was a palace, called after the name of the place, erected by Sirajud-Daulah with material brought from the ruins of Gaur.—*Murshidabad District Gazetteer*.

² A. taxes which were imposed under the Muhammadan government in addition to the regular assessment on the land; miscellaneous cesses.

³ Received on 27 *Bhadon* 1195 Bengali. (9 September 1788).

⁴ Col. Allen Macpherson arrived in India as Ensign. Adjutant of 1st Brigade in 1785; Captain, 1789; Major, 1781; Lieut.-Col., 1783. He was a kinsman of the officiating Governor-General, Sir John Macpherson, Resigned, March, 1791.—*Bengal Past and Present*, vol. XIV.

man, she replied that he could not obtain possession on the strength of the *patta* he had produced and that he should have obtained one at the time when the measurement was conducted by the *Nizam* officers. Requests him to consider the dispute raised by the Captain.

(6) *The Resident to Munni Begam.* Has received her letter in reply to his own relating to Mr McGowan's lands. She has written that the dispute had been settled once previously and that a ditch was dug to mark off the boundary. Requests her to send him such papers as may be obtainable regarding this settlement. Dated 9 September 1788.

(7) *Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah to the Resident.*¹ Has received his letter accompanying the *patta* and his statement. Has understood all the particulars from the perusal of the two papers. The *patta* in Mr McGowan's possession proves conformable to the copy available among the records and it was signed and sealed during the administration of Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan to whom a reference may be made for particulars.

(8) *Munni Begam to the Resident.* Has received his friendly letter requesting her to forward the papers that are in her possession respecting Mr McGowan's lands. She therefore encloses for his information the copies of a *mahzar*,² a map and a letter addressed to her by the said gentleman regarding the farming of her property. Since 1181 Bengali (1773-4 A.D.) Bibiganj has belonged to her and she is surprised to see that Mr McGowan produces a *patta* and lays claims to the land.

(9) *Mr McGowan to Munni Begam.* Is honoured to receive her letter through Hari Kishan and has perfectly understood its contents. Desires to rent Bibiganj for as

¹ This and the following letter were received on 11 *Zulhijja* 1202 A.H. (13 September 1788).

² A. a general application or representation, a statement laid before a judge, a public attestation, or a document attested by a number of persons professing to be cognisant of the circumstances of the case, and submitted, with other signatures, to the court.

long as he may reside at the garden house called Hayat Bakhsh situated at Muradbagh. Hopes that she will give permission to her officers to receive his *qabuliyat* and that she will grant him a *patta* bearing her seal after the usual manner.

(10) *Mahzar* issued under the seal of the *qazi* bearing the names of some of the inhabitants of Bibiganj, etc. Dated 24 *Asin* 1192 B.S. (7 October 1785).

Bhoman Bag, *mustajir* of Bibiganj, a *lakhiraj*¹ *mahal* belonging to Munni Begam, testifies that the people whose names appear in this document are fully acquainted with the circumstances of the *ganj* which was formerly farmed by his father, Mayaram. After the death of his father he took the farm of the land. Towards the end of *Chait* (March-April 1784) a dispute had arisen between his father and Capt. Moat (?), formerly the renter of Hayat Bakhsh, respecting the boundaries of the garden and the abovementioned *ganj*. After much discussion it was agreed that a wall should be erected about the height of a man to demarcate the property of each party. Consequently his father dug a ditch on the eastern and another on the western boundary. The Captain too marked off his lands by a ditch to the north and both the parties were satisfied. The *ganj* is still known by the same marks.

But the servants of Major McGowan have taken possession forcibly of the southern side for the purpose of making bricks on account of which they dig an immense hole in the land and thus spoil it. As the land is a part of Bibiganj he asked them to desist. Those who have been named above can fully testify to the truth of what he has related.

(11) *The Resident to Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan*. Encloses copies of all the correspondence that has passed between him and Nawab Mubarakud Daulah or between

¹ A. rent-free land, applied to land exempted for some particular reason from paying any part of the produce to the state; alienated or revenue exempted.

him and Munni Begam relating to Mr McGowan's case. Sends also the copy of the *patta* and statement for the addressee's perusal. Hopes to be favoured with an answer containing all the particulars. Dated 3 Asir 1195 B.S. (16 September 1788).

(12) *Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan to the Resident.* Has received 9 papers and a *patta* relating to Mr McGowan's case. Says that when he (the writer) was at Calcutta the Captain took possession of the land and erected buildings in the garden of Hayat Bakhsh situated at Muradbagh. He also learnt that the gentleman had procured the land during the time when Mr Middleton¹ was the Resident at Murshidabad in the 22nd year of the reign (1781). Later Sir John D'oyly spoke to him for the grant of a *patta* to M. Ross under the seal of the *Nazim* and sent him a draft. The writer replied that a *patta* could not be granted before a thorough investigation had been made. Sir John replied that he had measured the land and the boundaries and that there was no dispute about it. He also desired the writer to grant a *patta* according to the draft. The writer procrastinated but as Sir John D'oyly became displeased he issued a *patta* describing the length and breadth according to the draft. Received 17 September 1788.

(13) *Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan to the Resident.* Has received his letter accompanying 9 papers of correspondence relating to Mr McGowan's case. Will write to him when he has fully examined the case. Received 17 September 1788. (*TR* 29, pp 234-43, no 210).

Jun. 23. 1250. To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Has received his letter. Is glad to learn that the Nawab has purchased the house and garden in which he has been residing at Benares. May this prove auspicious! Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 525-6, no 149; *TI* 35, p 62, no 102; *AR* 5, p 53).

¹ Nathaniel Middleton. For biographical note, see *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p 22, f.n. 4.

1789

Jun. 24. 1251. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is extremely pleased to receive his lordship's letter in answer to his own through Lala Raushan Ray. Says that ever since he formed a connection with the Company he has endeavoured to preserve the friendly relations and assures that no deviation shall take place in his sincere attachment to his lordship. Hopes to be favoured with frequent letters. (*TR 29, pp 243-4, no 211 ; AR 5, p 11*).

Jun. 24. 1252. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Is honoured to receive his lordship's letter asking for an account of his *mushakhara* from the time of the commencement of Mr Pott's residency until his recall. Accordingly he encloses the account of receipts and arrears during the said gentleman's residency for his lordship's information.

Enclosure.—Account of the stipend of Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan, etc., from January 1785 to May 1787 during the residency of Mr Pott.

	Rs.	as.	gandas.
Due on account of the stipend to Nawab Muahmmad Riza Khan from January 1785 to May 1787 at Rs 20,000 per mensem (29 months).	5,80,000	..	..
Due on account of the stipends to Bahram Jang and Dilwar Jang, sons of Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan, from January 1785 to May 1787 at Rs 5,000 per mensem (29 months).	1,45,000	..	..
Total	7,25,000	..	..
Received from January to December 1785	3,00,000	..	..
Received from January to April 1786 in drafts	1,00,000	..	..
Received from May to August 1786 in cash	1,00,000	..	..
Received on different dates in cash.	18,775	..	..

	Rs.	as.	gandas.
in drafts	1,27,421	10	8
in bank-notes	36,285	..	..
on account of commission	10,693	1	18
	6,93,174	12	6
Due from Sundar Singh ¹ , with which the Company have no concern.	600	..	..
Balance outstanding	31,225	3	14
Total	7,25,000	..	..

(*TR 29, pp 244-7, no 212 ; AR 5, p 21.*)

- Jun. 24.* 1253. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Intimates that his eldest son, Nasirud-Din Ali Khan, with his brothers and family, has arrived at Murshidabad and that his marriage has been solemnised there. It is customary to offer a present on such happy occasions. Accordingly his son will send an *arzi* to his lordship accompanying a *nazr* which will be delivered to him by Mirza Ali Naqi Khan. Hopes that his present will be accepted. (*TR 29, p 248 ; no 213 ; AR 5, p 1.*)
- Jun. 24.* 1254. From Nasirud-Din Ali Khan. Intimates that he arrived at Murshidabad and got married there. As a mark of his respect for his lordship he sends a *nazr* of 7 gold mohurs which will be delivered to him by Mirza Ali Naqi Khan. Hopes that his lordship will accept it. (*TR 29, p 248, no 214; AR 5, p 25.*)
- Jun. 24.* 1255. From Munshi Muje Lal². Says that his lordship is fully aware of his straitened circumstances and of the services that he rendered to the Company. He received a small *jagir* from the Nawab Vazir in Rohilkhand for the maintenance of his dependants and enjoyed its possession till 1196 *Fasli* (1788-9), when it was confiscated without any reason whatever. Consequently he has been suffering much hardship. Hopes his lordship will direct Mr Ives to release the above *jagir* and that if this be found incon-

¹ *Diwan* of Nawab Mubarakul-Daulah.

² *Munshi* of Nawab Faizullah Khan.

1789

venient, requests him to speak to Tafazzul Husain Khan upon the subject so that he may be restored to his rights. (*TR* 29, p 249, no 215).

Jun. 24. 1256. From Benod Narayan, *Chaudhri* of pargana Lashikarpur. Says that his Lordship is well acquainted with the distressed situation of his zamindari on account of the oppressive conduct of Mr Dawson. At the time when the *band-o-bast* of 1195 B. S. (1788-89) was made he and several other *chaudhris* signed the agreements and *qistbandi* in conformity with the orders of the Governor-General and paid the *punia qist*. Mr Dawson in order to suppress the complaints made against him for the vast sums he had taken by oppressions over and above the revenues sent a message requesting him to draw up a *razinama*. The writer did not comply with his request and consequently experienced the dreadful effects of his displeasure. He has posted a *sazawal* in his *mahal* and has left nothing undone that could effect its ruin. Consequently the ryots have emigrated and there will be difficulty in collecting the Company's revenues. In this distressed situation he counts upon the support of the Governor-General. Hopes that his lordship will direct Mr Fendall¹ to recall the *sazawal* and to restore his zamindari to him so that he may be able to discharge the government revenue with perfect peace of mind. (*TR* 29, pp 249-50, no 216; *AR* 5, p 5).

Jun. 24. 1257. From Babu Vithal Rao². Says that ever since he attached himself to the English he has entertained a very high opinion of them and has tried to maintain friendly relations with the Governor-General. During the time of Mr Hastings he deputed Shankar Rao to attend on him.

¹ John Fendall came to India as a writer in 1777. He was for some time (1788) the Collector of Murshidabad and then Judge and Magistrate of Midnapore. He was appointed a Judge of the *Sadr Dincani Adalat* at Calcutta in 1817 and a Chief Judge in 1819. In the following year he became the member of Supreme Council. He died on 10 November 1825 at the age of 63.—I. R. D. *Press List of the Public Department; Bengal Past and Present*.

² Eitūl, in the vol. of translations. Bectul, in the vol. of abstracts. Probably he is Sivaji Vithal Rao, son of Vithal Shivdev Vinchurkar.

1789

Has now deputed Gopinath Deo to attend on his lordship and has entrusted him with several commissions which he will place before his lordship on his arrival at Calcutta. Commends him to his lordship's favour and hopes to be favoured with frequent letters. (*TR* 29, p 251, no 217 ; *AR* 5, p 10).

Jun. 24. 1258. From Babu Vithal Rao. Has learnt that a Brahmin named Salig Ram has carried the idol, *Machh*,¹ from Benares to Calcutta. Has therefore sent Gopinath Deo to Calcutta to pay his respects to his lordship and to represent every particular of this business to him. Hopes that his lordship will give a patient hearing to his representations. (*TR* 29, pp 251-2, no 218 ; *AR* 5, p 10).

Jun. 28. 1259. From Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan. Intimates that his marriage took place on 4 *Ramazan* 1203 A. H. (30 May 1789). Sends a *nazr* on the occasion which, he hopes, will be accepted by his lordship. (*TR* 29, p 252, no 219 ; *AR* 5, p 2).

Jun. 28. 1260. From Saiyid Ali Khan. Intimates that the wedding of his brother, Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, was celebrated on 4 *Ramazan* 1203 A. H. (30 May 1789). Intends now to return to Dacca though the date of his departure has not yet been fixed. His brother has sent an *arzi* accompanying a *nazr* which, it is hoped, will be accepted. (*TR* 29, pp 252-3, no 220 ; *AR* 5, p 29).

Jun. 29. 1261. From Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Has transmitted several *shuqqas* to his lordship through Mr Ives relating to his arrival at Lucknow and hopes that he has received them. Is sorry not to have received any reply to his *shuqqas*. In consequence of this neglect and indifference he has deputed Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad, one of his confidants, to attend on his lordship at Calcutta. Relying on the addressee's sincere attachment he is convinced that his lordship will receive him well and will give a patient

¹ H. a fish ; name of the first of the ten incarnations or manifestations of Vishnu.

hearing to his representations. The writer is also confident that his lordship will adopt such measures that he may stay 'here' (Lucknow) in a proper manner and be relieved of the distress and affliction which have overwhelmed him. This will also afford great satisfaction to His Majesty. The Nawab Vazir from his allegiance and attachment to the royal House seems inclined to do something for him, but for some reason or other, he is delaying the matter. Accordingly it is requested that his lordship, on whose orders depends the arrangement of his affairs will ask the Vazir to attend to his distressed situation. If his request be not acceded to, the writer intends to go to Calcutta immediately to stay with his lordship, for he has no other place of refuge. (*TR* 29, pp 253-4, no 221 ; *AR* 5, p 24).

Jun. 29. 1262. From the King¹. The addressee will have learnt from the letters of Major Palmer all about the disaster that has overtaken the Mughal empire. Says that he had a mind to speak with the Governor-General personally, but as this was not possible, he intended to send his eldest² son, Mirza Akbar Shah, to him. Later he changed his mind as he could not bear the latter's separation. Has therefore deputed another son, Prince Sulaiman Shikoh, who is unrivalled in understanding and courage. Hopes he will be accorded a hearty reception worthy of his rank and honour. Asks him to execute the royal commands which have been entrusted to the Prince and to destroy this letter after perusal, since its divulgence will injure his affairs. (*TR* 29, pp 254-5, no 222 ; *AR* 5, p 24).

Jun. 30. 1263. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Sends a present of mangoes. (*TR* 29, p 255, no 223 ; *AR* 5, p 19).

Jul. 1 1264. From Radha Nath (Raja of Dinajpur). Says that having celebrated the *punia* on 15 *Jeth* 1196 Bengali (26 May 1789 A. D.) at Havili Pinjera he paid the *punia* *gist* of the revenue to the Collector. Sends a *nazr* on this

¹ Received as an enclosure to the foregoing.

² Akbar Shah was the eldest surviving son of Shah Alam.

1789

occasion. Hopes to be honoured with letters now and then. (OR 1 A ; AR 5, p 8, no 224).

- Jul. 1. 1265. From Rai Ram Kanta (*D'ivan* of the Raja of Dinajpur). To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 2 A ; AR 5, p 8, no 225).
- Jul. 1. 1266. To Azamul-Umara Mushirul-Mulk (Ghulam Saiyid Khan). Congratulates him on the occasion of his being invested by Nawab Nizam Ali Khan with the power of affixing his seal to all the *Diwani* documents. (CI 20, pp 363-4, no 35; TI 35, p 62, no 103; AR 5, p 36).
- Jul. 1. 1267. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. To the same effect as no 1245 above. (CI 20, p 526, no 150 ; TI 35, p 63, no 104 ; AR 5, p 45).
- Jul. 1. 1268. To Harak Chand, *Jagat Seth*. Complimentary, and requesting permission to establish a mint at Murshidabad. (CI 20, p 526, no 151 ; TI 35, p 63, no 105 ; AR 5, p 43).
- Jul. 4. 1269. From Prince Sulaiman Shikoh. Some time ago he addressed *shuqqas* to his lordship and sent them through Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad Khan. Has now received a *shuqqa* from His Majesty addressed to his lordship which he encloses herewith¹ for his lordship's perusal and such action as he may think proper. Says that due to his lordship's inattention and neglect the distress of his situation is indescribable. During all this long period he has not been supplied with a single pie for his expenses, nor has the Vazir paid a visit to him from want of his lordship's permission. The advent of the monsoon has aggravated his situation as he lacks the essential requirements of the season. It is contrary to his custom to write repeatedly on the same subject. If his lordship at all wishes to preserve his honour then he should first of all take steps to keep his body and soul together. (OR 3 A ; AR 5, p 24, no 227).

¹ Apparently this refers to No. 1262 above.

1789

Jul. 6.

1270. From Rai Diy Chand. Has received his lordship's letter expressing his great sorrow at the death of his son. Complains against the conduct of the sepoys of the Farrukhabad detachment, who caused much damage to his gardens, which are situated near the camp. Requests his lordship to write a letter to the Commanding Officer on the subject. (OR 44 ; AR 5, p 19, no 240).

Jul. 7.

1271. From the Nawab of Dacca. Complimentary. (OR 54).

Jul. 7.

1272. To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan¹. Acknowledges the receipt of the friendly letter through Mir Abul Qasim professing his sincere attachment to the Company. Says that ever since his arrival in India he has viewed with no small concern that one of the most essential points of the treaty of friendship and alliance made in 1768 between the Nawab and the Company remained unexecuted on both sides, viz., the surrender of Guntur to the Company, and the regular discharge of the Nawab's *peshkash* by them. Although his lordship was anxious for the due performance of this Article yet out of consideration for the preoccupations of the Nawab he postponed all negotiations on the subject until he was convinced that the Nawab had full leisure to consider the propriety of giving effect to this Article of the treaty. The Governor-General then deputed Capt. Kennaway to the Nawab's Court with instructions to demand the cession of Guntur by virtue of the treaty of 1768² and to assure the Nawab of his firm intention to discharge the balances due to the Nawab on account of the *peshkash*. Has already expressed his satisfaction at the Nawab's immediate compliance with the request to deliver up Guntur to the Company and has also expressed his firm intention to adhere strictly to the terms of the treaty. He also entered into a full discussion of every article with Mir Abul Qasim in order that such parts of it as are undefined and obscure may be explained. This communication, his lordship is convinced,

¹ Published *verbatim* in Aitchison's *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads* (1929), vol. ix, pp 40-4.

² Quoted in full in no 1185 above.

will satisfy the Nawab of the propriety of his declining the proposal of the Mir to enter into a new treaty for the discharge of the *peshkash*. As a proof of his sincerity that the treaty should be carried into full effect, he agrees that in the sixth Article of the treaty, the words, "whenever the situation of affairs will allow such a body of troops to march into the Deccan" shall be understood to mean that the force engaged for by this Article, viz., two battalions of sepoys and six pieces of cannon, manned by Europeans, shall be granted whenever the Nawab shall apply for them, provided these are not employed against any power in alliance with the Company. That the battalion at present not defined in number shall consist of no less than 800 men each. That the six field-pieces shall be manned with the number of Europeans which is usual in time of war. That the expenses to be charged to the Nawab's account shall be no more than the exact sum which it costs the Company to maintain a body of that force when employed on service in the field and that this expense shall be shown as per separate account¹. That this detachment shall march within two months, or sooner if possible, after it is requisitioned, and that the Nawab shall be charged with the expense of it from the day it enters his territories until it quits them on its return to the Company's, with the addition of one month's cost at the average calculation of the whole amount, in order to defray the charges the Company must necessarily incur to mobilise the force. Has also fully discussed with the Mir the articles of the treaty that relate to the Nawab of Arcot. The Nawab of the Carnatic's right to the possession of the Carnatic Payaughat is fully established and admitted by the seventh and eighth articles and papers appertaining thereto. In regard to the articles relating to the *Diwani* of the Carnatic Balaghat the addressee must be convinced that circumstances have totally prevented the execution of these articles and the Company are at peace with the whole world. But should the Company hereafter obtain possession of the country

Vide no 1433 below.

1789

mentioned in those articles with the Nawab's assistance they will strictly carry out the stipulations in favour of the Nawab and the Marathas. Has repeatedly declared his firm intention to give full effect to the treaty of 1768 and to live in perpetual amity and friendship with the Nawab who must have been convinced of his sincerity of purpose by the perusal of the explanations he has given to those articles in the treaty which were ambiguous and obscure. But it is necessary that his lordship should point out to the Nawab that unless just cause is given for entering into new treaties, the laws of his country, the injunctions of the King and Company of England, as well as the faith and honour of the English nation prohibit him from entering into any negotiation to make new treaties. But though he has not agreed to enter into a new treaty with the Nawab for the reasons above assigned, yet the Nawab, in consideration of the authority vested in his lordship by the King and Parliament of England, might consider this letter as equivalent to a treaty, since the Members of the Council have given their acquiescence to its contents. Refers him for further particulars to the Mir to whom he has communicated without reserve all that occurred to his lordship on the subject of the elucidation of the treaty of 1768. (*CI 20, pp 364-71, no 36*).

- Jul. 7. 1273. To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Expresses his greatest satisfaction at the Nawab's surrender of Guntur to the Company in conformity with the terms of the treaty subsisting between the two governments. Notwithstanding the fact that Capt. Kennaway resided at Hyderabad, the Nawab thought it expedient to depute Mir Abul Qasim to Calcutta for the adjustment of certain affairs with the Company and in particular for the elucidation of the articles of the treaty of 1768 many of which were doubtful and ambiguous as well as for the settlement of the respective claims of each party on account of the Northern Circars. Since the Nawab has evinced such cordiality for the Company by the surrender of Guntur, the Governor-General is now determined to adjust the account of Guntur

and the arrears of the *peshkash* due from the Company on liberal and fair basis. It is acknowledged that the Nawab by virtue of the treaty is entitled to the *peshkash* of Rs 5 lakhs per annum for four *sarkars* (Ellore, Chicacole¹ Rajahmundry² and Mustafanagar) up to the day of the death of Nawab Basalat Jang and to Rs 7 lakhs per annum for five *sarkars* (including Guntur) from that day and that the Company is entitled to the revenue of Guntur from the day of Basalat Jang's death. Has had long and frequent conversations with the Mir on this subject and it is with great pleasure that he now communicates to the Nawab his acquiescence in the adjustment that has finally taken place. In this adjustment the rights of both the parties have been fully taken into account. Acknowledges the right of the Nawab to the *peshkash* from 25 September 1777 to 25 September 1782 at Rs 5 lakhs per annum together with the balances of 1788, the whole amounting to Rs 67,49,333. The claim of the Company to the revenue of Guntur from 25 September 1782 to September 1788 is also admitted by the Nawab. In order to estimate the amount of the revenue of Guntur, the most equitable mode in the Governor-General's opinion is to calculate it at the value the Nawab put on that district while it was in his possession after the death of Basalat Jang. The advantages that must arise from following this method are obvious. Firstly, it will bring speedy adjustment of the long outstanding accounts between the two Governments, both equally anxious to increase and strengthen the friendship already existing between them; secondly, any other mode of adjustment will give rise to the question of investigation into the *Mufasssal Wasilat*³, of the Nawab's *Amil* (Saif Jang) and such an investigation would take months to complete during which time the Nawab will be deprived of the sum actually due to him. In order therefore to avoid any delay his lordship has adopted the

¹ Subdivision, town and taluk in Madras.

² Subdivision and taluk in Godavari District, Madr. s.

³ *Wasilat*, A. the total amount (of revenue) collected under every description; the proceeds of an estate.

engagement entered into by Saif Jang as the basis for final adjustment because the amount of such engagement has been verified from the statement of accounts furnished to Capt. Kennaway at Hyderabad by the Nawab's officers. By this statement the balance due to the Nawab will be Rs 7,86,827-9 as. But as it is probable that in consequence of the prompt surrender of Guntur to the Company the *Amil* may not have been in a position to adopt the measures necessary for securing outstanding sums which may cause loss to the Nawab, his lordship has agreed to pay to the Nawab one-half of the sum that may be outstanding at the end of 1197 *Fasli* (September 1789). This will bring the total amount payable to him to Rs 9,16,665-11 as. Encloses the copy of statement of accounts between the Nawab and the Company drawn up according to the principles enunciated above for the perusal of the Nawab. Has granted the Mir a bill on Masulipatam for Rs 9,16,665-11as. and has accepted his receipt in full liquidation of all claims on each other upto 1197 *Fasli*. Since the Nawab's concurrence is necessary to give a final sanction to the adjustment with the Mir, it is expected that the Nawab will accord his approval to it. Refers him to the Mir and Capt Kennaway for further particulars. (CI 20, pp 371-6, no 37).

Jul. 8. 1274. From the *vakil* of Lankapa Naik Sahu. Says that during the time when Guntur taluk was under the Nizam's government his constituent, Lankapa Naik Sahu had business dealings with the zamindars of that taluk in the following manner. After the settlement of *jama'bandi* the Sahu used to satisfy himself by taking bonds and securities from the zamindars and to take upon himself the responsibility of paying their revenues to the government. When the said taluk came under the Company's government all the bonds and securities of the zamindars, held by the Sahu were taken away from him by the officers of the Company. Consequently the Sahu has sent his *gumashta* in company of the writer to represent all these matters before his lordship.

1789

The *gumashta* will accordingly wait upon his lordship. Hopes that full justice will be done to the *Sahn*. (OR 6A).

Jul. 8. 1275. From the *vakil* of Rai Venkat Kishan of Hyderabad. Says that Rai Venkat Kishan holds the offices of *desmukh*¹ and *despandean*² of *pargana* Jajur in *Sarkar* Mustafanagar. Due to some reasons he had to live away from that place. Requests his lordship therefore to write a letter to the Chief of Masulipatam directing him to transfer the Rai's hereditary rights and privileges to his brothers who are living in that quarter. (OR 7A).

Jul. 8. 1276. From Munni Begam. Is extremely pleased to hear the happy news that the King of England has recovered from his illness³. May His Majesty live long and enjoy a prosperous life ! (OR 8A ; AR 5, p 18).

Jul. 9. 1277. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Sends a present of mangoes through Mir Kamalud-Din Husain. (OR 9A ; AR 5, p 19).

Jul. 10. 1278. From Maulavi Ahmad Ali Khan. *Qasid-Quzat*. Complimentary. (OR 10A ; AR 5, p 2, no 245).

Jul. 10. 1279. From Mir Abul Qasim. I, Mir Abul Qasim Musavi, being honoured and nominated by the Nizam to adjust the accounts between his government and the

¹ *Mar*, a hereditary native officer under the former governments exercising chief police and revenue authority over a district containing a certain number of villages, and responsible for the revenue, holding for compensation lands rent-free, and being entitled to the various fees and allowances, corresponding generally to the zamindars of Bengal.

² *Mar*, the hereditary revenue accountant of a district or certain number of villages, holding office by hereditary tenure, and paid by lands.

³ In the spring of 1788 King George III suffered much from bilious attacks and his disease continued to grow worse day by day. By November 5, he became delirious and for a while it was thought that his life was in imminent danger. He was at last put under the charge of Dr Willis who treated him efficiently and brought the disease under control. On 19 February 1789, it was officially announced that the King was convalescent and on 10 March he resumed his authority. His recovery was hailed with delight throughout London which was profusely illuminated to celebrate the occasion.—*Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. vii.

English Company relative to the *peshkash* according to the treaty of 1768 and to ascertain the balance due from the said Company to the Nizam, hereby acknowledge that after full discussion the sum of Rs 9,16,665-11 as. is agreed to be justly due from the said Company to the Nizam and that accordingly I have received 3 sets of bills drawn on the Company's officers stationed at Masulipatam or Madras dated as in the bills undermentioned in lieu of the said adjusted balance and have granted this as a receipt for the said bills and there is now no further claim on either side between the said Company and the Nizam up to 1197 *Fasli* or September 1789. The condition of this receipt is that when the amount of the bills shall be fully paid at Madras or Masulipatam a receipt under the Nizam's seal as a final acquittal of all mutual claims to the end of September 1789 shall be given and this my receipt delivered to the Nizam's officers.

One *hundi* of 3 lakhs of Arcot rupees payable on 15 September 1789 at Masulipatam.

One *hundi* of 3 lakhs payable on 31 December 1789 at Masulipatam or Chinapatan¹.

One *hundi* of 3,16,665-11-0 payable on 31 January 1789² at Masulipatam or Chinapatan. Dated 10 July 1789. (OR 148).

Jul. 10. 1280. To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Has received his letter requesting his lordship to take a receipt from Mir Abul Qasim for the amount that may be settled as due from the Company and to send the same to the Company's officers at Masulipatam so that when the amount of the bills given by his lordship shall be fully paid the Nawab's officers will grant a receipt under the Nawab's seal and take back the receipt given by the Mir. Says in reply that, agreeably to the Nawab's request, a receipt has been taken from the Mir and the officers at Masulipatam have been directed to return it on receiving a final receipt under

¹ Better known as Madras.

² 31 January 1789, according to the original but 31 January 1790 is apparently meant.

1789

the Nawab's seal. (*CI* 20, p 526, no 152 ; *TI* 35, p 118, no 109 ; *AR* 5, p 49).

Jul. 10. 1281. *Papers relative to the negotiations between Mir Abul Qasim, the Nizam's vakil, and the Governor-General.*

I. *The Governor General's reply to the papers delivered by Mir Abul Qasim on April 23, 1789.* In adjusting his accounts with the English the Nizam gives them credit for only such sums of money as were actually received into his Treasury from Guntur *sarkar* during the time the district remained in his possession (after it had lapsed to the English). This is not fair to the English who ought to be credited for all the sums that the Nizam's '*Amil*, Saif Jang, realised from the *sarkar* or at least for his *jama'* that is, the total amount which he engaged to pay to the Nizam for this *sarkar*. If it is stated that Saif Jang has not realised the full amount of his *jama'* and that there are balances outstanding against the zamindars then obviously the English cannot be penalised for the shortcomings of the Nizam's *Amil* over whom they had no control. But it can be proved from the accounts delivered by the zamindars of Guntur that in fact Saif Jang has collected a much larger sum than the amount of the *jama'*. Only he embezzled the money instead of paying it into the Nizam's Treasury. It is in the power of the Nizam alone to call him to account.

It has been stated that the country being now in possession of the English it is in their power to recover the balances stated to be due from the zamindars. In answer to this it may be observed that the balances stated to be due from the zamindars in accordance with the accounts delivered by Saif Jang's *mutasaddis* to Capt. Kennaway are not true, being contradicted by the private accounts left by Saif Jang himself and by those of the zamindars. Besides, even if those balances were just it is almost impossible now to recover them from the zamindars. The depopulated state of the country and the distress of the zamindars and the inhabitants show that they have been taxed beyond all bounds and that they have nothing left wherewith to pay these fictitious demands upon them. For all these

reasons it is impossible to admit any mode of adjustment other than crediting the English for the *jama'* engaged on by Saif Jang. Dated 25 April 1789. [OR 118, CI 20, pp 377-80, no 38 ; TI 35, pp 65-8, no 108 (1)].

II. *The Governor-General's reply to the papers delivered by Mir Abul Qasim on 27 April 1789.* In supporting the proposition to adjust the rent of Guntur by the engagements of Saif Jang, instead of the actual receipts, this Government has not been actuated by motives of its own pecuniary advantage but by a sincere desire of bringing to a speedy termination the unadjusted accounts between the Nizam and the Company. The examination of *wasilat* accounts is ever attended with delay and embarrassment. It does not appear possible to adjust the accounts of Nawab Saif Jang at Hyderabad, as for that purpose, either the zamindars of Guntur or the officers will have to attend there. It would occasion great inconvenience and loss to the Company if those who will carry on the business of the collections have to be away from their stations. So the *mutasaddis* of Nawab Saif Jang, with some persons on the part of the Nizam must come to Guntur. But the Nizam also may have reasonable objections to this procedure. Further, if the *wasilat* accounts are examined every item will be a subject of argument such as the quantum of the receipts, the propriety of the expenditures, the authenticity of the vouchers produced and other circumstances. It is more than probable that the accounts will never be adjusted in this manner as the interest of the zamindars will be to prove the utmost against Saif Jang while his interest will be to invalidate their assertions. Ultimately references will be made to the Nizam and this Government and more discussions will take place. These perplexities will be avoided by adjusting the account on the basis of the *jama'* of Saif Jang. The collections by the *wasilat*, together with the extra collections of Saif Jang, amount to 21,80,795 pagodas while the *jama'* is 22,49,916, leaving a difference of 69,121 only. His lordship is willing to concede one half of this difference to the Nizam as proof of his intention to adjust the accounts upon a liberal footing. Mir Abul Qasim must know that it

is impossible to collect the balances from the zamindars, nor are the balances of revenue ever recoverable after a term of years. If the Nizam did not collect these balances when the *sarkar* of Guntur was under his absolute management and disposal, how can the Company now do it? Now let Mir Abul Qasim consider which of the two ways is most advantageous for the Nizam, to settle the account by taking one-half of the aforesaid sum of 69,121 or to defer all payment until the *wasilat* accounts have been examined at Guntur. Dated 30 April 1789. [*TI* 35, pp 68-70, no 108 (2)].

III. *Memorandum of a conversation with Mir Abul Qasim.* When the draft (not forthcoming) of the proposed letter to the Nizam was presented to the Mir he observed that it was contrary to his proposal of a final reference of the Guntur accounts to Hyderabad which he had thought the Governor-General had acquiesced in. He was told that for the sake of a speedy settlement of this business his lordship had agreed to forego half of the balance of 69,120 pagodas stated to be due from the zamindars. He asked for the account by which this sum appeared a balance. On seeing it he observed that it was the zamindars' statement which could not be relied upon, that Saif Jang's accounts showed a sum of Rs 21,89,105 as the balance outstanding in the mofussil and that this could not be satisfactorily adjusted except by the reference he had proposed. He was told that Saif Jang had collected and embezzled the sum which he showed as balances and that, in any case the Nizam could not charge the Company with a balance which was due not from the country but from his own farmer and which he had allowed to accrue year after year by continuing the same farmer in the *sarkar*. He was then asked what sum the Nizam claimed from the Company and by what account. He replied that the Company owed as *peshkash* 67,50,000 rupees and that the Nizam had received Rs 36,95,774 from Saif Jang and now claimed the balance of Rs 30,54,226. He asked what sum his lordship agreed to pay and was told that he had not yet declared positively but probably Rs 8,36,827 as proposed

by Capt. Kennaway. He then said that the difference between this sum and that claimed by the Nizam amounted to Rs 22,17,399 and enquired how it was going to be adjusted and proposed the following alternative modes. Either (1) the mofussil balances of Saif Jang amounting to Rs 21,89,105 should be referred for investigation at Hyderabad or (2) the Company should take upon itself to pay the mofussil balances unless they can be proved against Saif Jang, or (3) the business should be adjusted by a division of the difference, viz., Rs 22,17,399, between the parties. Now one-half of this sum would be Rs 11,08,699 to which the sum offered by his lordship, viz., Rs 8,36,827, being added the claims of the Nizam would amount to Rs 19,45,526. And, if proofs could be adduced that Saif Jang had collected as much, the sum would be credited to the Company. In reply he was told that the sum could be positively proved against Saif Jang and, in that case, would the Nizam reimburse the Company for all the sums that may be shown to have been realised by his *Amil*? To this no reply was given but the Mir desired that the purport of this conversation might be placed before his lordship. There were further discussions but nothing was settled. In conclusion, the Mir desired to know his lordship's sentiments on the alternative modes that he had suggested for settling the account. Dated 21 May 1789. [*TI* 35, pp 80-4, no 108 (5)].

IV. *Proposal made by the Persian Translator to Mir Abul Qasim in consequence of the conversation summarized above.* His lordship has repeatedly expressed his desire for the adjustment of these accounts on fair and liberal grounds and has received the proposal from Mir Abul Qasim for a reference to Hyderabad, which he agreed, was one mode of settling the issue. His lordship has however pointed out the difficulties that will attend its execution and now little remains for further argument. The accounts transmitted by Capt. Kennaway, and the conversations that passed with Hyderabad on the subject, are well known to Mir Abul Qasim. His lordship now offers to the

1789

Mir his final terms for the settling of the amount to be paid to the Nizam. Firstly, the sum proposed by the Captain viz., Rs 8,36,827, be immediately paid on condition of the Mir's granting in the name of the Nizam a deed of acquittal for all past demands on account of the *sarkars* upon the Company. Secondly, the accounts, supported by each respective party be referred for investigation to Guntur from where only the true figures can be known. Upon the strength of the report from Guntur to Hyderabad the difference between the *mufassal* receipts of Saif Jang and the arrears of the *peshkash* will be ascertained. On these two proposals the Governor-General further remarks that the first, which has all along appeared to him equitable, will be the speediest mode for adjustment while the second involves much difficulties. In order to prevent fresh difficulties from arising his lordship recommends the first proposal in preference to the second and requests that the Mir will finally make up his mind regarding the mode of adjustment. Dated 22 May 1789. [TI 35, pp 84-6, no 108 (6)].

V. *Memorandum resulting from a conversation between Mir Abul Qasim and the Persian Translator on 26 May.*

Account proposed by Mir Abul Qasim.		Pagodas.
Collections of Saif Jang from 1191 to 1197		
<i>Fasli</i> (1783-89 A. D.)	.	21,23,396
Deduct <i>Sihbandi</i> 25 per cent	.	5,30,849
		<u>15,92,547</u>
Deduct <i>Sihbandi</i> charges such as <i>sadrs</i> or contingencies of the <i>Kachahri</i>		22,470
<i>Rusum Ihtisab</i> ¹	.	5,017
<i>Waqai' Nigari</i> ²	.	8,500
Charity	.	800
In course of 7 years		<u>36,787</u>
		15,55,720 ³

¹ P. fees of a supervisor or clerk of the market or of the superintendent of police.

² P. the establishment of news-writers.

³ This appears to be a mistake. The figure works out at 15,55,760

Basalat Jang died on the expiration of one month of 1192. The Company cannot claim the revenue of the <i>sarkar</i> (Guntur) for the year 1191 and one month of 1192 as Basalat was then alive. These 13 months being 1/7 of the whole time (or Saif Jang's <i>taahud</i>), deduct		2,22,245
		<hr/> 13,33,475
at Rs 3-10 per pagoda		40,00,523
<i>Peshkash</i> due to the Nizam		67,50,000
		<hr/> 27,49,477

[*TI* 35, p 87, no 108 (7)].

VI. *The Governor-General's reply to the Memorandum of the conversation between Mir Abul Qasim and the Persian Translator on 26 May 1789.* The claim of revenue relating to the district of Guntur made by the Nizam on account of the year 1191 *Fasli* (1783-4 A. D.) amounting to 2,22,245 pagodas cannot but be observed with astonishment. This government has from the beginning proposed an adjustment of the accounts between the Nizam and the Company on the basis of the *jama'* agreed to be paid by Saif Jang since the death of Basalat Jang. This proposition has been proved to be founded on justice and to furnish the only means of a speedy and equitable adjustment. But the proposition of the Mir for assuming the collections as the basis of an adjustment, is not only contrary to propriety but is also fraught with the disadvantages of unnecessary delay. Even if the principle of an adjustment upon the basis of collections is admitted, the Nizam would probably be no gainer since it was never agreed to admit the deduction of 25 per cent as *sihbandi* from the amount of collections. That this fact should not be obvious to the Mir is surprising, since the consent of this government to allow the Nizam credit for half the balances of the last year of Saif Jang's management, exhibited a clear proof that the balance of previous years could not be admitted; and that the collections were not agreed to as the standard for adjustment.

It must further be deemed as evidence of the inclination of this government to adjust the accounts on fair and liberal principles, as nothing can be more apparent than the fact that it gave credit for such outstanding sums as had the least probability of being realised from the zamindars. Sets forth the following proposition for the speedy settlement of accounts.

1. The English are entitled to the rents of Guntur since the time of Basalat Jang's death.

2. The rents are to be determined by the *jama'*. It is agreed to allow the Nizam credit for half the balances of last year.

3. The Nizam is entitled to a *peshkash* at 5 lakhs of rupees previous to the death of Basalat Jang and to Rs 7 lakhs since his death.

In accordance with the above principles an accurate account has been drawn up and delivered to the Mir showing the balance due to the Nizam. This balance the Company is willing to pay upon an acquittal being given to them in full satisfaction of the balance due to the Nizam. If the Mir is not authorised to receive this amount and give the acquittal, the other alternative that remains is to transfer the discussion to Hyderabad. Dated 28 May 1789.

Statement of account between the Nizam and the Company drawn from the accounts transmitted by Capt. Kennaway.

Amount of the Nizam's claims on the Company on account of the *peshkash* of the Circars.

Balance for 1777.	49,333	0	0
Due from 25 September 1777 to 25 September 1782 at the rate of Rs 5 lakhs per annum	25,00,000	0	0
Due from 25 September 1782 to 25 September 1788 at the rate of Rs 7 lakhs per annum	42,00,000	0	0
	<hr/>		
	67,49,333	0	0

Amount of the Company's claims on the Nizam for the rent of Guntur from the time of Basalat Jang's death.

Aggregate *jama'* for 6 years, from

25 September 1782 to 18 September

1788 59,62,505 7 0

Deduction agreed to be paid to the

Nizam of one half of the mofussil

balance of 1197 *Fasli* (1789-90) . 1,29,838 2 0

Total amount of the Company's

claim 58,32,667 5 0

Nizam's claims 67,49,333 0 0

Company's claims 58,32,667 5 0

Due to the Nizam 9,16,665 11 0

[*CI* 20, pp 389-94, no 38 (4) ; *TI* 35, pp 88-91, no 108 (8)].

VII. *Memorandum containing the Governor-General's reply to the paper delivered by Mir Abul Qasim.* His lordship has made repeated proposals finally to adjust the accounts of the Guntur *sarkar* and the arrears of *peshkash* by offering to Mir Abul Qasim the amount proposed by Capt. Kennaway which he has repeatedly declared to be just and fair. It has also been agreed to pay to the Nizam one-half of the balance of the last year of Saif Jang's management. These proposals have not been acceded to. As his lordship is convinced of the propriety of his offers and of the strength and sufficiency of the reasons urged in support of them he has nothing further to say on the subject.

It is however incumbent on his lordship to say a few words regarding the offer made of paying the Nizam half the balance outstanding on account of 1197 *Fasli*. He had from the first declared his sentiments relative to the balances and it is well known to all men versed in the business of the revenues that old balances are never collected, for all sums paid in the succeeding years are only the current revenues and the balances continue just the same. Still his lordship has made the offer of one half of the balances

of 1197 from the consideration of the readiness with which the Nizam surrendered the Guntur *sarkar*, which makes it impossible for him (the Nizam) to collect the outstanding sums. In making this offer his lordship's object is to diminish the loss the Nizam must otherwise sustain.

From the nature of the arguments used by Mir Abul Qasim it is quite evident that the accounts cannot be adjusted here, notwithstanding his lordship's desire that these should be finally settled without making further references which must ultimately tend to the Nizam's disadvantage. His lordship has consistently proposed an adjustment on the basis of the *jama'* of Saif Jang because he wishes to impress the Nizam with the belief that he means to abide by his just declarations and Mir Abul Qasim must be sensible that during the present negotiations all matters which have any importance have been communicated to him in writing and not verbally. However, in order still further to assure the Nizam of his lordship's firm resolution to abide by his engagements regarding both the treaty and the future payment of the *peshkash* he agrees to the reference of the accounts to Guntur. And in order that the Nizam may not conceive that he agrees to this in order to postpone the regular payment of the *peshkash* for the present year his lordship is ready to discharge the amount already due by a bill on Masulipatam¹ in the Nizam's favour at day's sight. His lordship trusts that Mir Abul Qasim must realise that in consenting to a reference to Guntur for the adjustment of accounts as demanded by him, while convinced of the propriety of his own proposal that they be settled on the *jama'* of Saif Jang, his lordship is actuated by a firm determination to abide by his engagements in discharging the current *peshkash* while the accounts between the Company and the Nizam remain unadjusted. Date 11 June 1789. [OR 145; CI 20, pp 396-8, no 38 (6); TI 35, pp 92-4, no 108 (9)].

¹ Subdivision in Kistna District, Madras. Seaport and early European settlement.

VIII. *Substance of a conversation between Mir Abul Qasim and the Persian Translator.* Mir Abul Qasim was informed that if the demands offered to him by the Government meaning those specified in the current account presented to him lately (no VI above) were not agreed to, then the only course left will be to refer the adjustment back to Hyderabad. He (the Mir) desired to know the grounds on which the adjustment would be made at Hyderabad whether on the *jama'* of Saif Jang or on his collections. He was told that should the reference be determined on, certain instructions would doubtless be given to Capt. Kennaway which were not now known. There was a lot of discussion on the subject of fixing the revenues of Guntur at the *jama'* of Saif Jang. It was argued that the Nizam had received only 36 lakhs out of the 59 lakhs of the *jama'*, how was then the difference of 23 lakhs to be adjusted? The reply was given that between the two governments the most liberal mode for adjusting the accounts was to assume the gross sum at which the lands in question were farmed out, as the real value of the district in question to its proprietor. If the Nizam has not received the value it was his own fault. There was little doubt that the *Amil* had collected the whole amount and must answer for it to the Nizam. The Company could do nothing about the stated balances. The Mir said that if the whole amount had been collected by Saif Jang it would certainly be carried to the Company's credit. But if it was neither collected by Saif Jang nor could be recovered by the Company from the zamindars, then the Nizam would be the loser if the Company debited him for the *jama'* of Saif Jang. Dated 11 June 1789. [TI 35, pp 94-5, no 108 (10)].

IX. *Substance of a conversation between Mir Abul Qasim and the Persian Translator on 12 June 1789.* When the question of the proof of the mofussil receipts was put to the Mir he replied in general terms that it could not be had by a comparison of the accounts of the *Amil* (Saif Jang) and the zamindars. Then there was a general discussion.

1789

about Saif Jang's *jama* and balances and the amount paid by him to the Nizam. Finally, the Mir said that Saif Jang had engaged the farm of Guntur for Rs 59,62,505-7, had collected Rs 36,96,774-12-6 and there was a balance of Rs 22,66,720-10-6 outstanding. Let one half of this, *i.e.*, Rs 11,33,360-5-3 be paid by the Company in addition to what they are already willing to pay, *i.e.*, Rs 8,36,827-7 as proposed by Capt. Kennaway. In this manner the amount payable by them will amount to Rs 19,70,187-12-3. Dated 12 June 1789. [TI 35, pp 95-8, no 108 (11)].

X. *Memorandum containing the Governor-General's reply to the paper delivered by Mir Abul Qasim on 15 June 1789.* The introductory part of Abul Qasim's paper declaring the attachment of the Nizam for the Company is highly satisfactory to his lordship who will ever be happy to cultivate that friendship which has so long subsisted between him and the Company. He considers the ready surrender of Guntur no less as a proof of the sincerity of the Nizam's declarations than a mark of his regard for justice and the faith of treaties upon the grounds of which the Company claimed it.

Mir Abul Qasim represents many instances in the conduct of the Company's servants at Madras contrary to the treaties. Whether any such violation of treaties subsisting between the Nizam and the Company has taken place and how far such alleged violation would have justified the Nizam in withholding what the Company was entitled to by the treaty, are questions which only tend to useless recrimination and the discussion of these answers no useful purpose. So to this part of Abul Qasim's remarks no reply will be made. It is sufficient that friendship is now firmly established between the Nizam and the Company and his lordship trusts that it will never be shaken.

Two points, as Abul Qasim observes, have been the subject of his representations to this Government—the articles of the treaty of 1768 and the balance of accounts due to the Nizam. The former have been liberally and

decidedly explained and Abul Qasim must have represented to the Nizam the liberality of the explanation and the readiness and candour with which it was made. The Nizam by this explanation has obtained a definite assistance from the Company which from the equivocal terms of the former treaty was left open to evasion. This is a proof of his lordship's attention to the faith of treaties and of his attachment to the Nizam.

The second part of the negotiation seems as remote from conclusion as ever. Abul Qasim dwells much on the term 'right' and his explanation of it, as applied to the adjustment of the account between the Nizam and the Company, appears to be this that the former should be debited only for what he actually received from Guntur. The Company, on the other hand, contend that they are entitled by right to credit in their accounts with the Nizam for the value the Nizam put on the *sarkar* while it remained in his possession after it had become the Company's property.

What is right in itself is right in all times and places. Will Abul Qasim affirm that if the Nizam had only received one lakh per annum from Guntur the Company must consent to take credit for that amount only as the value of an estate producing ten times as much? Surely not. And the supposition proves that Abul Qasim's definition of right is not just, for it is in fact the supposition above stated, though not in the literal degree.

When an estate or territory belonging to one falls into the possession of another the injury to the proprietor is equal to the value set on the estate and this is precisely the position whether the possessor derives the whole or one half of the value from it.

The next question is whether the value of the property is estimated too high. The Company compute it agreeably to the *ta'ahud* of Saif Jang, the renter, which Mir Abul Qasim calls a mere paper. But it forms a proof of the value of the district since it shows the amount expected from Guntur by the Nizam. But as the Nizam has declared

that he has not received more than thirty-six lakhs out of the stated value, his lordship has offered to prove that the Nizam's *'Amil* did collect the full amount of his *ta'ahud*, viz., 59 lakhs, and if he fails to establish this he will deduct proportionally from the amount of the Company's claims. Whether Saif Jang paid or embezzled what he collected the Company ought not to suffer in their property which is their right. Saif Jang is answerable, not the Company, to the Nizam for what he engaged to pay.

Abul Qasim argues as if he thought it possible to recover the balances stated to be due from the zamindars of Guntur and urges this as a just claim on the Company. The answer to this is plain. If the balances could be recovered why were they suffered to accumulate year by year? But these balances are only the difference between Saif Jang's engagements and his payments to the Nizam. Nevertheless, the Governor-General is of opinion that the *'Amil* (i. e. Saif Jang) may possibly have been deprived of the opportunity of realizing some part of his mofussil engagements the year in which Guntur was surrendered to the Company, from want of information of such intention of the Nizam sufficiently early to adopt measures to secure the collection of them. The Governor-General therefore declares his intention of giving credit to the Nizam for half the uncollected sums on account of the year 1197. But in regard to the former balances his lordship has repeatedly stated his reasons for not admitting them as a claim on the Company and the smallest reflection will point out the unreasonableness of such claims while they arose if they arose at all, from the management of Saif Jang during the time the Nizam kept possession of the Company's property. The *sarkar* is now surrendered to the Company and the resources of it are diminished to nearly one half of the previous amount in consequence of such management of the Nizam's *'Amil*.

Mir Abul Qasim urges the claim of 'right'. But the property of Guntur from the time of the death of Basalat Jang was the right of the Company which the Nizam withheld

for many years. The Company did not in consequence pay the *peshkash* for the Northern Circars. The right of both is now again settled. In paying to the Nizam the arrears of *peshkash* the Company have an equal right to the arrears of the revenues of their own territories, that is to say, to what they lost during the time they were withheld from them and not to the sum which is stated to have been paid into the Nizam's Treasury, which may have fallen greatly short of the real revenue of the *sarkar* either by a desire of the Nizam to gratify individuals whom he wished to favour or from the embezzlement or the mismanagement of his own renter. In point of right the Company might also claim the restitution of their property at the value which it had when it fell into the Nizam's possession. The difference of its present and former *jaud* is above four lakhs of rupees. To this extent has their property been injured by the detention and years must elapse before it can recover its former state. In considering what is right let Abul Qasim attend to this. He has made a proposition to divide the difference of the mutual claims, that is, that half the balances of Saif Jang's engagements shall be paid by the Company. When he urges arguments on the grounds of right the proposition should be proved conformable to it.

To sum up the whole, the Governor-General repeats the proposal he has so often tendered for the adjustment of these balances, convinced of its propriety from the principles of revenue affairs as well as from the documents furnished him from Guntur. The proposal therefore is that without waiting for a minute enquiry into mofussil collections the gross sum of six years (i. e. from the death of Basalat Jang to the surrender of Guntur) should be debited to the Nizam in liquidation of the *peshkash* due from the Company plus half of the uncollected sums of 1197 agreed to be paid. Or if this be considered unsatisfactory his lordship is ready to furnish proofs of the actual collections of Saif Jang to the amount of the engagements concluded by him with the Nizam. The Governor-General

1789

however warns Mir Abul Qasim that the latter proposal must not only for a considerable time postpone the payment of the balance to the Nizam but will also expose the ruined state of Guntur and the oppression with which Saif Jang enforced his collection. It will in all probability demonstrate that the *Amil* did realise more than the sum admitted and consequently the amount now offered by his lordship will be reduced. While on the other hand the first proposal sets forth an easy mode for the adjustment on grounds which between two governments equally desirous of a good understanding ought to be pronounced fair, liberal and just, and adopted without further delay. However ready the Governor-General may be to meet the sentiments of Mir Abul Qasim in the business of the adjustment he cannot, consistently with his public station, agree to the terms offered by Mir Abul Qasim whereby the Company will sustain an evidently unjust loss. His lordship has no further arguments to urge, and though happy at the residence of Mir Abul Qasim on the part of the Nizam at this place as long as he may think proper to remain, he leaves his departure or stay to his own option, since while Mir Abul Qasim perseveres in the conviction of the equity of the claims he advances for the Nizam no adjustment can possibly take place but through Capt. Kennaway at Hyderabad. Dated 20 June 1789. [OR 144; CI 20, pp 399-406, no 38 (7); TI 35, pp 98-105, no 108 (12)].

Jul. 10. 1282. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that Mir Abul Qasim, the Nizam's *vakil*, is going back to Hyderabad via Benares. He intends to break journey at Murshidabad. Desires the Nawab to pay him every attention. (CI 20, p 527, no 153; TI 35, p 118, no 110; AR 5, p 45).

Jul. 11. 1283. To the Nawab of Dacca (Saiyid Ali Khan). Acknowledges the receipt of his letter reporting that the marriage of his brother¹ (Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan) had been solemnised. Congratulates him on this happy occasion. (CI 20, pp 527-8, no 154; TI 35, p 118, no 111; AR 5, p 40).

¹ Son, in the vol. of translations is incorrect.

1789

Jul. 11. 1284. To Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan. A complimentary reply to his letter relating to his marriage and declining his *nazr*. (CI 20, p 528, no 155 ; TI 35, p 118, no 112 ; AR 5, p 40).

Jul. 14. 1285. From Raja Tej Chand. Says that the settlement operations of his zamindari for 1196 Bengali (1789-90 A.D.) are in progress. Desires to have an interview with his lordship in order to represent certain matters personally. Counts solely upon his lordship's support and hopes that his request will be granted. (OR 114; AR 5, p 3).

Jul. 15. 1286. From Rajmata Kamateshwari. Has learnt from a copy of the Governor-General's *parwana* that for the welfare of the Maharaja and the good of his country Mr Short¹ has been invested with authority for the administration of her principality of *suba* Behar and the *chaklas* of Boda, Purubbhag and Patgram. He will collect the revenue from those places and after paying the *na'ibandi* of Cooch Behar and the land revenue for the said *chaklas* to the Company and Rs 500 to Khagendra Narayan and after meeting the expenses of the Maharaja's household and of the administration he will keep the balance in trust until the receipt of further orders. Says that the Governor-General has always been good to her and the Maharaja and it was through his kindness that they were delivered from the hands of the treacherous Nazir and their lives were saved. Further, a Lieutenant has been stationed with a number of sepoys to protect them and the writer feels confident that it will not be possible for any self-seeking person to interfere in the affairs of the state contrary to her and her son's desire.

Hearing about the magnanimity and good reputation of the Company from the report of trustworthy persons she sought their protection of her own free will when the

¹ Mr. T. V. Short was sent on deputation to settle the disturbances in Cooch Behar in 1789. After his death Mr H. Douglas was appointed Commissioner of Cooch Behar. *Abstracts of General Letters to and from Court of Directors*, vol. I ; Letter no 1229 above.

1789

Maharaja was only five years old and she has been punctually paying the *na'ibandi* and *malguzari*. The Company on their part stood by the agreement and did not interfere in her administration so long, but now it has been decided that Mr. Short will take charge of the country. Says that the Maharajas of this country had never been subordinate to the Kings of Hindustan but that they were independent rulers. She feels that she herself and the Maharaja will suffer in prestige and dignity in their own state and in other states like Bhutan, if she is deprived of the ruling power. As the Governor-General is her saviour and protector she requests that such orders may be issued as will invest her with the control of the administration. She will pay the *na'ibandi* and *malguzari* as before. Since in Rangpur District there are other Ranis acting as regents of minor zamindars it will be a disgrace for her if she is denied this privilege. (OR 146-7¹; AR 5, p 7).

- Jul. 15. 1287. From Munni Begam. Says that she wanted to send ice to the Governor-General regularly throughout the year but now the season being unfavourable she is unable to do so. Hopes this intention of hers will be accomplished next year. (OR 124; AR 5, p 18).
- Jul. 16. 1288. From Prince Shigufta Bakht. Offers congratulations on the recovery from illness of His Majesty, the King of England. (OR 134; AR 5, p 20, no 265).
- Jul. 16. 1289. To Haidar Beg Khan. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 528, no 156; TI 35, p 119, no 113; AR 5, p 42).
- Jul. 16. 1290. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Complimentary. (CI 20, pp 528-9, no 157; TI 35, p 119, no 114; AR 5, p 45).
- Jul. 16. 1291. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Thanks him for his congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. Declines the *nazr* sent through Hikmat Maab Khan as it is not the practice

¹ OR 147 is the Persian translation of OR 146 which is in Bengali.

1789

now to accept it. (*CI* 20, p 529, no 158 ; *TI* 35, p 119, no 115 ; *AR* 5, p 46).

- Jul. 16. **1292.** To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has received his two letters. In the first he has stated that owing to the departure of Mirza Ali Naqi Khan to Murshidabad he could not send letter to his lordship. In the other he has conveyed his congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. Thanks him for this mark of friendship and desires him to write now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 529-30, no 159 ; *TI* 35, p 119, no 116 ; *AR* 5, p 35).
- Jul. 16. **1293.** To Radha Nath (Raja of Dinajpur). Has received his letter intimating that having celebrated the *punia*, he has paid the *punia gist* to the Collector, and forwarding a *nazr* for the Governor-General. Says in reply that he is glad to learn that the *gist* has been paid in time but the acceptance of *nazr* is against his practice and he therefore returns it with thanks. (*CI* 20, p 530, no 160 ; *TI* 35, p 120, no 117 ; *AR* 5, p 39).
- Jul. 16. **1294.** To Munni Begam. Has received her two letters. In the first she has communicated her congratulatory message on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. In the other she has expressed her inability to send ice to him on account of the season being unfavourable. Says in reply that he always considered her presents of ice as a mark of her sincerity towards him. Hopes to hear from her frequently. (*CI* 20, pp 530-1, no 161 ; *TI* 35, p 120, no 118 ; *AR* 5, p 48).
- Jul. 16. **1295.** To Lala Kashmiri Mal. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 531, no 162 ; *TI* 35, p 120, no 119 ; *AR* 5, p 39).
- Jul. 17. **1296.** To Mauavi Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. A complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 531-2, no 163 ; *TI* 35, p 120, no 120 ; *AR* 5, p 39).
- Jul. 17. **1297.** To Rai Banwari Lal. Has received his letter stating that his *vakil*, Lala Damri Lal, has returned from Calcutta for reasons of health and that he has deputed

1789

Lala Sardar Singh in his place who will represent all the matters to his lordship. Says that every attention will be shown to his *vakil*. (*CI* 20, p 532, no 164 ; *TI* 35, p 121, no 121 ; *AR* 5, p 38).

Jul. 18. 1298. From Hasan Riza Khan. Sends a congratulatory *nazr* of 101 *ashrafis* through Tafazzul Husain Khan on the occasion of the recovery from illness of the King of England. (*OR* 14A ; *AR* 5, p 13).

Jul. 22. 1299. From Iftikharul-Mulk Saiyid Khalilullah Khan. To the same effect, forwarding a *nazr*. (*OR* 15A).

*Jul. 22.*¹ 1300. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that the zamindari of *zila* Rajshahi etc. has been bestowed upon Raja Ram Kishan. In accordance with the tradition of the country and in compliance with the Raja's request, desires the Nawab to confer on him the title of 'Maharaja Dhiraj Prithvipat Bahadur'. (*CI* 20, p 532, no 165 ; *TI* 35, p 121, no 122 ; *AR* 5, p 45).

Jul. 29. 1301. *Advertisement.* Notice is hereby given that as the present contract of Messrs Young and Heatly with the East India Company for the provision of opium in the provinces of Bengal and Bihar will expire on 31 August 1789, sealed proposals of contract for 4 years, for the future supply of 6,400 maunds of Bihar, 1,580 maunds of Bengal and 1,400 maunds of Benares opium annually, will be received by, the Secretary to the Government on or before 31 August next.

The opium is to be delivered by the contractor in chests, each containing two maunds, at the *Khalisa* office at Calcutta.

The Company will deliver over to the contractor for the purpose of manufacturing opium such houses and godowns in Bengal and in Bihar as may now be in possession of the present contractors, upon condition of his redelivering them to the Company at the

¹ July 16, according to the vol. of abstracts.

expiration of the contract in the same state of repair in which they shall have been made over to him.

The contractor will be liable to pay to the Company a penalty of 300 sicca rupees for every chest of opium short of the stipulated quantity which he shall fail to deliver, and to refund the amount of the advances made to him for the supply of the quantity deficient. But if the deficiency is occasional by hail-storms, hurricanes or any other natural calamity, the contractor will be exempted from the payment of such penalty, but he shall have to refund the amount of the money advanced to him, with an interest of 8 per cent per annum, for the time he may have had the use of it.

The contract for the supply of Benares opium will be subject to the approval of the Court of Directors in England and the contractor thereof will have to pay to the Raja of Benares a duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on all opium which he may import from his dominions and a duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to the Company upon its entering the Company's provinces. (*CI 29, pp 459-70, no 194*).

Jul. 30. **1302.** From Tukoji Holkar. Is sorry not to have received any letter for a long time. Says that Ahalya Bai intends to go on a pilgrimage to Gaya and Jagan-nath. She has with her a large number of followers and a certain number of elephants, camels and carriages, etc. Requests his lordship to grant a free passage and an exemption from the payment of pilgrim tax to the said Bai and to direct Mr Ives to afford her all possible facilities in the places of pilgrimage. (*OR 16A; AR 5, p 32, no 276*).

Aug. 1. **1303.** From the King (Shah Alam). Desires that his lordship will give a favourable consideration to the representations of Ishaq Ali Khan,¹ grandson of the late

¹ Son of Nawab Baqir Khan, who was in charge of the Royal exchequer when Shah Alam was staying at Allahabad. Ishaq Ali Khan was the manager of the saltpetre *mahal* of Purnea. He was later removed from this post by the *Nizam* of Murshidabad.—*Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII.

Bairam Khan¹ respecting Rahmatganj which was granted to his ancestors in perpetuity. (OR 149; AR 5, p 17).

Aug. 1. **1304.** *Nawab Asafud-Daulah to the Resident at Lucknow.* Has already replied to his enquiry about the Maratha pilgrims who come for a holy bath at Allahabad that no duties are levied on them against ancient custom. The addressee wrote again to ask the rate of the duties so that Maratha chiefs, being informed of it, may not make complaints and he further desired to be informed whether previously there was a general exemption in favour of the Marathas which has now been revoked. Says in reply that for several years in the month of *Magh* (January-February) he had of his own accord remitted the duty. The concession was extended to pilgrims in general and not the Marathas alone and it held good for the month of *Magh* only. But he (the Nawab) grants exemption to thousands who apply for it. This was not done before. As regards the amount of the duty he has introduced no new rates which require to be stated here. They are the same as before and his officers have strict orders not to demand more. Received by the Resident on 13 July 1789. (OR 150; AR 5, p 23).

Aug. 1. **1305.** From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that some time ago he sent an *arzi* accompanying a *nazr* and some presents to Qutlaq Sultan Begam through Mian Ilahi Bakhsh Khan and Lala Makkhan Lal. The Begam in acknowledgment of the presents has written a *shuqqa* and both Ilahi Bakhsh and Makkhan Lal have sent their *arzis* to the writer. Forwards the *shuqqa* and the *arzis* for his lordship's perusal. They will be delivered to him by Mir Kamalud-Din Husain Khan.

(1) *Qutlaq Sultan Begam to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah.* Acknowledges the receipt of his *arzi* accompanying a *nazr* of 51 *ashrafis*. Is much pleased to learn from

¹. Commander of Shah Alam's artillery during his stay at Allahabad.

Mian Ilahi Bakhsh Khan and Lala Makkhan Lal all about the particulars of his attachment and sincerity to her. Hopes to hear frequently from him.

(2) *Mian Ilahi Bakhsh Khan to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah.* Says that after taking leave of the Nawab he reached Benares and delivered his *arzi* to Qutlaq Sultan Begam. He has also spoken to the Begam all about the Nawab's sincere attachment to her. The Begam in reply has also written a *shuqqa* to him.

(3) *Lala Makkhan Lal to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah.* To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 151-4; AR 5, p 19, no 279).

Aug. 1. 1306. From Lala Kashmiri Mal. Is much delighted to learn that the King of England has recovered from his illness. Requests his lordship to convey his message of congratulation to His Majesty. (OR 155; AR 5, p 8, no 280).

Aug. 1. 1307. From Raja Bachhraj. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 156; AR 5, p 3, no 281).

Aug. 1.¹ 1308. To Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. Has received his letter stating that the settlement operations for 1196 Bengali (1789-90 A. D.) are in progress and desiring to have an interview with his lordship in order to represent certain matters personally. Agreeably to his request, he is asked to proceed to Calcutta and the Governor-General will be pleased to meet him. (CI 20, pp 532-33, no 166; TI 35, p 121, no 123; AR 5, p 37).

Aug. 1. 1309. *Proclamation.* The Governor-General and Council having been informed that many Indians and some Europeans contrary to the laws and ordinances of this country and the dictates of humanity have been for a long time in the practice of purchasing or collecting the natives of this country of both sexes, children as well as adults, for the purpose of exporting them for sale as slaves in different parts of India and else-

¹. July 22, according to the vols. of translations and abstracts.

where, it has been resolved by them (the Governor-General and Council) to exert to the utmost extent the power and authority vested in them in order to prevent such practice in future and to deter by the most exemplary punishment those persons who are not to be otherwise restrained from committing the offence. It is therefore hereby notified that if any person residing in the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, or in any respect subject to the authority of this Government be concerned in future directly or indirectly in the said inhuman and detestable trade he shall be prosecuted with the utmost rigour in the Supreme Court at the expense of the Company. In case of British born subject he shall be forthwith ordered to proceed to Europe. If such person or persons be not subject to the Court's jurisdiction he or they, upon information being given to the magistrate of the place or district in which the offence shall have been committed, shall be apprehended by him (the magistrate) and kept in confinement to be dealt with according to the laws of the country.

In order that no one may plead ignorance hereof the superintendents of the police for the town of Calcutta and the magistrates of *adalats* in the several parts of the country are hereby ordered to give immediate notice of this proclamation in such manner as shall render the knowledge of it universal to persons of all descriptions and to repeat the same on the first day of January in every year. They are further directed to pay the strictest attention to the regulations contained in it and to take the most effective steps in their power to enforce them.

In order that all persons offending against this proclamation may be brought to punishment for the same and the unfortunate sufferers rescued from misery, a reward of Rs 100/- is hereby offered for the discovery of every such offender to be paid on his conviction before the Supreme Court of Judicature or before the magistrate of the district and of Rs 50/- for each person of

either sex who shall be delivered from slavery or illegal confinement in consequence of such discovery. The money will be paid to the informer or informers on his or their application to the Secretary to the Government and presenting to him a certificate of the conviction of the person or persons committing the offence.

The Governor-General and Council further recommend to British commercial houses and private merchants to assist as far as possible in carrying these regulations into effect by taking the most effectual means in their power to prevent the commanders of their ships or vessels, or of ships or vessels consigned to them, or otherwise placed under their directions, from carrying away natives of this country in order to sell them as slaves.

The Master Attendant of the port of Calcutta is hereby forbidden to grant in future an English pilot to any ship or vessel the commander of which shall not have previously declared upon oath that there are not then on board and that he will not during his voyage consent to receive on board, any natives to be exported as slaves with the intention to dispose of them at some foreign place or whom he (the commander) has any reason to imagine will be disposed of as such after they leave this country.

The Master Attendant is also hereby directed to give notice to all the native pilots that if they should pilot out any vessel having on board natives of this description, knowing or believing them to be such, the privilege of piloting will be taken from them for ever and their names and offences registered. Dated Fort William, 23 July 1789. (*CI* 20, pp. 533-4, no. 167).

Aug. 1. 1310. To Raghuji Bhonsla. Has received his letter. Is glad to learn about his visit to Poona. Is confident that in consequence of the close intimacy between them, the addressee would continue to acquaint him with the events of that quarter. Refers him to Bishambhar Pandit for particulars. (*CI* 20, p 535, no 168 ; *TI* 35, p 122, no 126 ; *AR* 5, p 52).

- Aug. 1. **1311.** To (1) Ikramud-Daulah, (2) Babbu Begam, (3) Nawab Asafud-Daulah, (4) Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan, (5) Iftikharud-Daulah, (6) Hasan Riza Khan, (7) Haidar Beg Khan and (8) Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Acknowledges with pleasure their letters of congratulation on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. Excuses himself from accepting the *nazrs* where they accompanied such letters. (*CI* 20, pp 535-9, nos 169-75; *TI* 35, pp 122-3, nos 127-33; *AR* 5, p 43).
- Aug. 1. **1312.** To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his two friendly letters sent through Lala Raushan Ray. Is glad to learn about his loyalty and attachment to the Governor-General. Hopes to hear about his welfare now and then. (*CI* 20, p 539, no 176; *TI* 35, p 123, no 134; *AR* 5, p 41).
- Aug. 1. **1313.** To Nawab Dil Diler Khan. Has received his letter stating that he has learnt that Rai Dip Chand has addressed an *arzi* to his lordship without the knowledge of the Nawab requesting permission to reside at Lucknow. Says in reply that every attention will be paid to the Nawab's honour and friendly relations with the Governor-General and that the Nawab will have learnt about his lordship's reply to the Rai. Hopes for letters of welfare. (*CI* 20, p 540, no 177; *TI* 35, p 124, no 135; *AR* 5, p 40).
- Aug. 1. **1314.** To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has received his letter intimating that his eldest son Nasirud-Din Ali Khan, has arrived at Murshidabad and that his marriage has been solemnised there. Congratulates the Nawab on this happy occasion and sends a *khil'at* to his son. (*CI* 20, pp 540-1, no 178; *TI* 35, p 124, no 136; *AR* 5, p 35).
- Aug. 1. **1315.** To Mir Muhammad Husain Khan. Has received his two letters. In the first he has communicated the hesitation of the Nizam in accepting the proposal

1789

relating to the stationing of *dak* messengers. In the other he reports that on 8 *Shawwal* (3 July 1789) when the Nizam honoured Capt. Kennaway by dining at the latter's house a certain malicious person under the pretence of offering *nazr* attacked A'zamul-Umara and wounded him and that the assailant was captured on the spot and is now in confinement. Asks him to continue reporting the events of that quarter. (*CI* 20, p 541, no 179; *TI* 35, p 124, no 137; *AR* 5, p 46).

- Aug. 1. **1316.** To Vithal Rao. Has received his two letters through Gopinath Deo. Assures him that every assistance will be given to Gopinath in the execution of his mission. (*CI* 20, p 541, no 180; *TI* 35, p 124, no 138; *AR* 5, p 38).
- Aug. 1. **1317.** To Raja Amar Singh Jadav. In compliance with his request a letter has been addressed to Mr Duncan directing him to pay every attention to the Raja and afford him all facilities when he reaches Benares. (*CI* 20, pp 541-2, no 181; *TI* 35, p 125, no 139; *AR* 5, p 50).
- Aug. 1. **1318.** To Maharaja Udwant Chand. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 542, no 182; *TI* 35, p 125, no 140; *AR* 5, p 35).
- Aug. 1. **1319.** To the Raja of Burdwan. In compliance with his request permission is granted to him to come down to Calcutta. (*TI* 35, p 122, no 125; *AR* 5, p 37).
- Aug. 1. **1320.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Informs him of the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his recent illness. (*CI* 20, p 411, no 39; *TI* 35, p 121, no 124; *AR* 5, p 55).
- Aug. 3. **1321.** To Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Acknowledges the receipt of his several letters together with other *shuqqas* bearing His Majesty's seal. Says that he has perfectly understood the contents of those letters and such other particulars as the Prince had entrusted to Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad for verbal communica-

tion. Has already explained to the Prince how it is necessary for the English to maintain the present cordial relations with all the neighbouring Princes of Hindustan and how the Nawab Vazir was bound by his friendship for the Governor-General to follow the same system of policy as was adopted by the English. The Prince can perceive on the slightest reflection how essential it is for every government to adhere strictly to its treaties and engagements and not to give the other party the smallest cause for umbrage or suspicion. Has ever shown due respect to His Majesty and the royal family and as far as it lay in his power he has yielded a ready compliance with the royal commands. Prays therefore that his reply to the Prince's commands may not be construed as a refusal of compliance with them on any grounds but those mentioned above. Says that though it is his earnest desire to maintain the fame of the English for sincerity in their friendship with others, yet the present fluctuating state of affairs in Hindustan renders the greatest circumspection absolutely necessary, particularly so because of the unfortunate events which have of late surrounded the throne of Delhi where the important offices of the State have successively fallen into the hands of different interests and His Majesty's seal has been used by the most powerful for the time being. From these considerations, the Governor-General is sorry to express his doubts about the authenticity of His Majesty's *shuqqas* which have been forwarded by the Prince. Is however convinced that His Majesty, renowned as he is for his good qualities, would not entertain any unfavourable idea against the Governor-General, particularly when the latter has always paid full attention to his commands and has performed due services to the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) and his family. Has already represented to the Prince the great inconvenience that would attend his visit to Calcutta. Hopes that he will reflect on the impropriety of so arduous an undertaking and desist from it. (CI 20, pp 412-15, no 40; TI 35, pp 125-8, no 142; AR 5, p 47).

1789

- Aug. 3.¹ **1322.** To Rai Dip Chand. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter complaining against the conduct of the sepoy. (of the Farrukhabad detachment) who cause much damage to his gardens and requesting his lordship to write a letter to the Commanding Officer on the subject. Agreeably to his request a letter has been written to the Commanding Officer to restrain his men. (*CI* 20, p 542, no 183; *TI* 35, p 125, no 141; *AR* 5, p 40).
- Aug. 3. **1323.** To Nasirud-Din Ali Khan. Has received his letter accompanying a *nazr* and intimating that he arrived at Murshidabad and got married there. Congratulates him on this happy occasion and sends him a *khil'at* of six pieces with jewels. Declines the *nazr* as it is not the practice now to accept it. (*CI* 20, pp 542-3, no 184; *TI* 35, p 128, no 143; *AR* 5, p 49).
- Aug. 3. **1324.** To Babu Ausan Singh. Has received his letter intimating that he has appointed Saiyid Sher Ali as his *vakil* in place of Patni Mal deceased, to attend on his lordship at Calcutta. Refers him to his *vakil* for particulars. (*CI* 20, p 543, no 185; *TI* 35, p 128, no 144; *AR* 5, p 51).
- Aug. 3. **1325.** To Muhammad Riza Khan. Says that the Governor-General is ever desirous of adopting such measures as will tend to the happiness of the people of this country who are under the protection of the Company and more especially those whose poverty and indigence make it necessary for them to put themselves under the authority of others in order to get their subsistence, even to such a degree as to sell themselves and their children as slaves. He has therefore resolved to issue a proclamation containing such regulations which may lead to the achievement of the object. But as this practice of purchasing and keeping slaves has been long established and is widely prevalent among both the Musalmans and the Hindus, and as his lordship does not wish to infringe the customs and established usages of

¹ August 1, according to the vol. of translations.

this country, or in any sense to act contrary to the laws of the different sects of the people of these provinces, he encloses a Persian translation of the proclamation¹ which he proposes to issue at present and requests that the addressee will give in writing his opinion on the contents of it and will communicate to him such objections as may occur to him, to any part of it. (*CI* 20, pp 543-4, no 186 ; *TI* 35, pp 128-9, no 145 ; *AR* 5, p 46).

Aug. 3. 1326. *Proclamation*.² Whereas it is the ancient custom of this country to keep boys and girls as slaves for stated period and consideration, the Governor-General is pleased to promulgate the following rules in order to alleviate, as much as possible, the misery of those unfortunate people, who faced with starvation and death in abnormal times, offer themselves or their children to serve as *ajirs*³ to others who would provide them with food and clothing.

In all cases where a person offers himself as an *ajir* an agreement in the form given in the schedule⁴ annexed will have to be executed before a District Judge, who shall register it after fully satisfying himself about the correctness of the entries and propriety of the terms and conditions of the contract. The document will be handed over to the *ajir* duly signed by the District Judge and the *Qazi*. The agreement must be executed in all cases whether the *ajir* is male or female or the person taking the *ajir* is of either sex. If a male person takes a female *ajir* to serve him, it shall be specified in the agreement that he would not cohabit with her without proper wedlock, otherwise the contract will become void. Any

¹ *Vide* the next letter.

² This proclamation is badly worm-eaten and in parts unintelligible. It appears to be the draft sent to Muhammad Riza Khan for his opinion. The draft as amended by the Khan is given under no 1379 below.

³ A hired servant or labourer; a bondsman; a bond-slave; one who has entered into an engagement for a stipulated sum to serve another for a specific term, or until he repay the sum advanced; hireling; mercenary.

⁴ Not forthcoming.

one found guilty of acting contrary to this rule in his dealings with his *ajir* shall be punished by the District Judge according to the law of the land and the *ajir* shall be set free and his bond cancelled.

It shall be optional for the *ajir* to leave his master after the expiry of the term of the bond or to continue with him according to his free choice. If however he is detained after that period against his will, the Court will compel the *mustajir* to pay him reasonable remuneration for his or her services for the period so detained.

Any one giving information of any person engaged in the slave trade shall be rewarded and the person so engaged shall be duly punished. Those who earn their livelihood from the auction of slaves at Calcutta or other towns are hereby warned not to sell *ajirs* as slaves, otherwise they would be punished by the Supreme Court. (CI 20, pp 544-7, no 188).

Aug. 5.

1327. From Faizun-Nisa Begam. Says that her father-in-law, late Shahamat Jang, built a mosque and a *madrasah* in Motijhil and appointed Maulavi Muhammad Rabi to teach in the *madrasah*. A few years later her husband, Nawab Ikramud-Daulah, who was the nephew of Nawab Shahamat Jang and real brother of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah, died and was buried in the *madrasah* compound. After the death of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah, Nawab Sadiq Ali Khan imprisoned her and her son, Nawab-Muradud-Daulah, and the widow of Nawab Mahabat Jang and sent them to Dacca. During their absence (from Murshidabad) Muhammad Amin, a servant of Maulavi Muhammad Rabi, became the custodian of the *madrasah* and the tomb of her husband. After their release when they (the exiles) returned to Murshidabad, Muhammad Amin took no notice of them nor did he allow them to perform any service either to the *madrasah* or to the tomb. Consequently his lordship was graciously pleased to write a letter to Mr Burges directing him to hold an enquiry into the matter and to restore

the *madrasah* and the tomb to her. This letter was presented by her *vakil* to Mr Burges but he took no action on it.

Further, she and her son have been the recipients of a monthly allowance of Rs 400 from the Company for a long time. Mr Speke has been paying this amount to them regularly without any trouble. Requests his lordship to issue two letters in her favour, one to Mr Burges directing him to hold an enquiry into the matter and restore the *madrasah* and the tomb to her, and the other to Mr Harington, who has been appointed in the place of Mr Speke, asking him to pay her allowance to her in the usual manner. (OR 157; AR 5, p 12, no 282).

- Aug. 5. 1328. From Haidar Beg Khan. Intimates that all the instalments of the Company's subsidy up to the end of June 1789 have been paid. Is arranging for the regular payment of the instalment every month. Refers him to the letter of Mr Ives for further particulars. (OR 158; AR 5, p 13, no 283).
- Aug. 5. 1329. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Two complimentary replies to his lordship's letter. (OR 159-60; AR 5, p 11, nos 284-85).
- Aug. 5. 1330. From Mirza Sultan Daud. Offers congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England. (OR 161; AR 5, p 18, no 286).
- Aug. 5. 1331. From Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan. To the same effect. (OR 162; AR 5, p 2, no 287).
- Aug. 5. 1332. From Raja Mahip Narayan Singh. To the same effect, forwarding a *nazr*. (OR 163; AR 5, p 4, no 288).
- Aug. 5. 1333. From Mulchand. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 164; AR 5, p 20, no 289).
- Aug. 5. 1334. *Dastak*. As two boats with men, women, and necessary articles belonging to Munshi Sukh Lal,

1789

a servant of Mr Cherry, are coming from Allahabad to Calcutta, the *rahdars*, *chaukidars*, *guzarbans* and others are directed to give a safe and free passage to the boats. (CI 20, p 544, no 187).

Aug. 6. 1335. *Dastak*. Be it known to the *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others from Calcutta to Lucknow that a boat laden with 6 pieces of cannon and a stone box is going from Calcutta to Lucknow for the Nawab Vazir. Let no one demand duties or hinder its progress in any way. (CI 20, p 547, no 190).

Aug. 6. 1336. *Dastak*. Be it known to the *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others that a few cages of animals and a box full of glassware are being carried from Calcutta to Lucknow for the Nawab Vazir. Let no one demand duties or hinder their progress in any way. (CI 20, p 547, no 191).

Aug. 7. 1337. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Requests that Col. Mordaunt,¹ who has gone to Calcutta to see the Governor-General, may be granted leave to repair to Lucknow. (OR 165 ; AR 5, p 31, no 290).

Aug. 7. 1338. *Dastak*. Granted to Ram Nath, gardener, who is taking with him 339 fruit trees and 4 distilling apparatuses for Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan from Calcutta to Benares. (CI 20, p 548, no 192).

Aug. 8. 1339. From Mir Abul Qasim. Says that taking leave of his lordship he reached Murshidabad on 9 *Zulqada* (2 August). Will proceed further after attending to some important business. (OR 166).

Aug. 8. 1340. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah, Munni Begam, Bahu Begam and Muhammad Riza Khan. Mr Speke having resigned the Collectorship of Rajshahi and the office he held at the *Nizamat Darbar*, Mr J. E. Harington has been appointed to succeed him. He will shortly pay his respects to them. Hopes that they will show him the

¹ Col. J. Mordaunt was the Commander of Nawab Vazir's body-guard.

attention and civility due to his station and considering everything that he may represent as coming from the Governor-General, they will give their approbation to it. (*CI* 20 ; *p* 548, *no* 193 ; *TI* 35, *pp* 129-30, *nos* 146-9; *AR* 5, *p* 45).

Aug. 10. **1341.** From Rajaram Pandit. Is pleased to receive his lordship's letter relating to the case of the Zamindar of (*pargana* Mymensingh in *chakla*) Jahangirnagar (Dacca). Says that the zamindar having failed to liquidate his debt to Mangir Gosain¹ a suit was filed against him in the Supreme Court at Calcutta where the case was decreed in favour of the latter and the zamindar was ordered to pay the money by instalments. But the zamindar did not abide by the decision of the Court and failed to pay his instalments. The *chelas*² of the Gosain, who have been carrying on banking business in 'this' part of the country for several generations, accidentally met the brother³ of the zamindar, who had gone there to perform his pilgrimage of Jagannath. They caught hold of him and demanded the money from him. The writer however on receipt of a letter from his lordship on this subject directed the Gosain to adhere to the decision of the Supreme Court. He also got the zamindar's brother released and sent him away under the escort of a couple of peons. Hopes his lordship will see that full justice is done to the Gosain. (*OR* 167 ; *AR* 5, *p* 28, *no* 292).

Aug. 11. **1342.** From Mahadaji Sindhia. Says that it is well known that Sital Das and Ramratan were the most ungrateful people who brought ruin to the royal House, threw the affairs of His Majesty into confusion and caused all this warfare. Sital Das accompanied by Ramratan's family has now fled to Lucknow with the effects and jewels of His Majesty. As Sital Das was guilty of highly improper act and was accountable to His Majesty for

¹ Ramgir Sannyasi, according to no 1168 above.

² *Chela*. H. servant, slave, pupil, disciple, especially one brought up by a religious mendicant, to become a member of his order.

³ Rudra Chand Chaudhri.

his conduct, *shuqqas* were written to the Nawab Vazir and Major Palmer asking them to send Sital Das back to Delhi. The writer too received the royal order on this subject, and accordingly in consideration of the friendship that existed between him and the Vazir, he wrote a letter in proper terms to the latter but received no reply from him. It is presumed that the delay may be due to the fact that Major Palmer has represented these particulars to his lordship and that his instructions are awaited. Sital Das and others deserve severe punishment and should not be given quarter anywhere. It is surprising that the Vazir, who is an old servant of His Majesty, should give shelter to such people. Hopes that his lordship will persuade the Vazir to send back Sital Das and the family of Ramratan together with all the effects of the royal household which they may have got with them. This will please His Majesty and strengthen their friendship. (*OR 168 ; AR 5, p 29, no 293*).

Aug. 11. **1343.** From the Nawab Vazir. Is extremely delighted to hear that the King of England has recovered from his illness. Encloses a letter of congratulation to His Majesty and sends a sum of Rs 50,000, half of it to be distributed in charity in such a manner as His Majesty may direct and the other half to be handed over to Dr Willis¹ in recognition of his medical proficiency. A letter is also enclosed for the Doctor. They will be delivered to his lordship by Tafazzul Husain Khan. Desires him to transmit the letters and the money to England.

Nawab Vazir to the King of England. Is extremely pleased to hear the happy news of His Majesty's recovery from illness. May he live long and ever enjoy good health!

¹ Dr Francis Willis, Rector of Wapping, born 1717, died December 5, 1807. He was a clergyman who had paid great attention to cases of insanity, and kept a house at Gretford, in Lincolnshire, for the reception of persons so afflicted. For his attendance on the King he received a pension of £ 1000 by patent.

1789

On a separate paper. Encloses a sum of Rs 25,000 to be distributed in such a manner as His Majesty may direct for charitable purposes. (OR 169-70; AR 5, p 31, no 294).

Aug. 11. 1344. From the Peshwa (Madhav Rao Narayan). Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter accompanying a present of cloths. Says that though cloths of the finest quality are available and manufactured in 'this' part of the country also yet those sent by the Governor-General are indeed of very superior quality. Hopes to be always favoured with letters of welfare. (OR 171; AR 5, p 26, no 295).

Aug. 11. 1345. From Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 172; AR 5, p 25, no 296).

Aug. 12. 1346. From Hasan Riza Khan. Is overjoyed to learn that the King of England has recovered from his illness. Encloses a letter to be forwarded to His Majesty accompanying a *nazr* of 101 gold mohurs and Rs 10,000 for distribution among the poor.

Hasan Riza Khan to the King of England. Is delighted to hear the happy news of His Majesty's recovery from illness. May he live long and ever enjoy sound health! Sends a *nazr* of 101 gold mohurs and Rs 10,000 to be distributed among the poor. (OR 173-4; AR 5, p 13, no 297).

Aug. 12. 1347. From Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 175-6; AR 5, p 13, no 298).

Aug. 12. 1348. From Prince Sulaiman Shikoh. Is extremely pleased to hear the happy news that the King of England has recovered from his illness. Offers his congratulations on the occasion. (OR 177; AR 5, p 24, no 299).

Aug. 12. 1349. From Babu Ausan Singh. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 178; AR 5, p 26, no 301).

1789

- Aug. 12.* 1350. From the Raja of Burdwan. Says that after taking leave of his lordship he reached Burdwan on 25 *Sawan* (8 August) and engaged himself in the preparation of *bilabandi*. He always counts upon the support of his lordship. Hopes to be favoured with letters. (*OR 179; AR 5, p 3, no 300*).
- Aug. 12.* 1351. From Babu Manohar Das. Says that having performed his pilgrimage of Jagannath he has now reached Cuttack. Is stranded there on account of inundation. Will soon reach Calcutta and meet his lordship. Refers him to Lala Parakh Ram for further particulars. (*OR 180*).
- Aug. 12.* 1352. From Munni Begam. Is much pleased to learn from the letter of Nasir Muhammad Khan (her *vakil*) about the kindness and favour that his lordship has always shown towards him and thanks him for the same. (*OR 181; AR 5, p 18, no 303*).
- Aug. 12.* 1353. From Timur Shah, King of Kabul. Has received his '*arzi*' through Ghulam Muhammad Khan Naqshbandi stating the particulars of the loyalty and attachment of his predecessors, Mr Hastings and Mr Macpherson, to the Shah and intimating that having been appointed to the office of the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief he arrived in Calcutta and took charge of his office. Assures him of his royal patronage and favour. Dated 2 *Rabi* II, 1202 A. H.=12 January 1788 A. D. (*OR 182; AR 5, p 30, no 305*).
- Aug. 12.* 1354. From Nur Muhammad Khan¹ (of Kabul). Is glad to inform his lordship that as a mark of his loyalty and attachment to the throne His Majesty Timur Shah, King of Kabul, has bestowed a *khil'at* on him (the Governor-General). Assures him that he will ever enjoy the royal patronage. (*OR 183; AR 5, p 25, no 306*).

¹ Nur Muhammad Khan Babari, *Aminul-Mulk*, was the *Diwan* to Timur Shah and continued as such under Zaman Shah. In 1214 A. H. (1799-1800) he was put to death for high treason.—*Sirajut-Tawarikh*.

1789

Aug. 12. 1355. From Timur Shah, King of Kabul. To the same effect as no 1354 above accompanying a *khil'at*. [OR 184 ; AR 5, p 30, no 307(?)].

Aug. 12. 1356. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Says that some time ago he and Mr Duncan sent presents and friendly letters to Ran Bahadur Sah, the Gurkha Raja, and to his *Diwan*, Raja Bahadur Sah, through Gajraj Misar, informing them that merchants and pilgrims from Nepal who come to Benares are given every facility in the accomplishment of their objects and that this should encourage them to visit the place in ever increasing numbers. The writer sent one sword, one shield and a couple of glass chandeliers to the Gurkha Raja and one Benares turban to his *Diwan*. The replies to those letters have now been received, together with some presents, through the men of Gajraj Misar who has not yet returned from Nepal. Sends through Mirza Ali Naqi Khan copies of letters received by him from the Gurkha Raja and his *Diwan* for his lordship's perusal. Hopes that Mr Duncan has also represented these facts to him.

The presents for the writer comprise the following :—

2 musk balls accompanying a dead deer.

200 apricots.

200 jujube fruits.

1 elephant (not yet received).

(1) *Ran Bahadur Sah, Gurkha Raja of Nepal, to Ali Ibrahim Khan*. Thanks him for his letter and presents received through Gajraj Misar. Is glad to learn that merchants and pilgrims from Nepal are given every facility to visit Benares and carry on their business there. Sends some presents.

(2) *Raja Bahadur Sah, Diwan of the Gurkha Raja of Nepal, to Ali Ibrahim Khan*. To the same effect as the foregoing but without any presents. (OR 185-7 ; AR 5, p 1, no 308).

1789

- Aug. 12.* 1357. *Faizullah*¹, *Minister of the King of Kabul*, to *Mr Macpherson*. Has received his letter through Saiyid Ghulam Muhammad. It has been presented to His Majesty. A reply will be sent in due course. Hopes that he will write to him now and then informing him of the affairs of 'that' quarter. (*OR 188; AR 5, p 30*).
- Aug. 12.* 1358. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Is delighted to receive his lordship's letter. Professes his friendship for the Governor-General and says that no deviation shall take place in his loyalty to the Company during his lifetime. His enemies are at no time neglectful in their false representations in order to deprive him of his lordship's sympathy. But he hopes that his lordship will pay no heed to them unless their statements are supported by sufficient and convincing proofs. Assures his lordship of his firm loyalty and sincere attachment to the English and hopes that he will always receive favour at his hands. (*OR 189; AR 5, p 11, no 309*).
- Aug. 12.* 1359. To Beniram Pandit. Informs him that Mir Abul Qasim, *vakil* of the Nizam, is returning to Hyderabad *via* Benares and Nagpur. Desires him to furnish him with the necessary guides towards Nagpur. Other particulars will be made known to him by the letter addressed to Bishambhar Pandit. (*CI 20, pp 571-2, no 195; TI 35, p 131, no 150; AR 5, p 38*).
- Aug. 12.* 1360. To Mirza Sultan Daud, Ahmad Ali Khan, Raja Mahip Narayan Singh, Raja Bachhraj, Babu Mulchand and Lala Kashmiri Mal. Thanks them for their letter of congratulations on His Majesty's (King of Great Britain's) recovery. (*CI 20, pp 572-4, nos 196-200; TI 35, pp 131-2, nos 151-156; AR 5, p 46*).
- Aug. 15.* 1361. To Mir Abul Qasim. Complimentary reply. (*CI 20, pp 574-5, no 201; TI 35, p 132, no 157; AR 5, p 48*).

¹ Qazi Faizullah, a *mulla* of the obscure clan of Daulat Shahi, was the Prime Minister of Timur Shah Durrani and held this office during his whole reign.—Elphinstone: *Kingdom of Kabul*, vol. II, p 356.

Aug. 15. 1362. To Haidar Beg Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Is glad to learn that the Khan has paid into the Company's Treasury the *qists* up to the end of June 1789 and that he is exerting his utmost to arrange for the regular payment of the Company's dues in future. Is convinced of his sincerity and of his keen desire to strengthen the ties of friendship existing between the Nawab Vazir and the Company. Hopes for letters. (*CI* 20, pp 415-16, no 41; *TI* 35, pp 132-3, no 158; *AR* 5, p 42).

Aug. 17. 1363. *Sa'adat Ali Khan to Mr Duncan*¹. Proposes to give an entertainment in order to celebrate the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. Desires him to intimate his views in this matter so that a day may be fixed for the celebration of this auspicious occasion and invitations may be issued to him and other English gentlemen.

Mr Duncan to Sa'adat Ali Khan. Has received his letter seeking his advice in the matter of giving an entertainment on the occasion of the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. Says in reply that it is not proper to celebrate such an occasion without the consent of the Governor-General. Accordingly he has forwarded the copy of the addressee's letter to his lordship whose sentiments will be communicated to him as soon as they are known. (*OR* 190-1; *AR* 5, p 23, no 310).

Aug. 17 1364. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his two letters, asking him to send Col. Mordaunt back to Lucknow. Says that as the Colonel belongs to the Madras establishment, grant of leave to him in order to reside with the Nawab rests with that Government. Any interference on the part of the Governor-General in a matter like this will be improper. Hopes that the Nawab will realise his position and excuse him for the non-compliance of his request. Will be glad however

¹ Received as an enclosure from the Resident at Benares.

1789

to send the Colonel to the Nawab's presence provided the former is relieved of his duties at Madras. (*CI* 20, pp 416-18, no 42; *TI* 35, pp 133-4, no 159; *AR* 5, p 55).

Aug. 18. 1365. To Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Complimentary reply to his royal Highness's *shuqqa* of congratulation received through Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad on His Majesty's (King of Great Britain's) recovery. (*CI* 20, p 575, no 202; *TI* 35, p 134, no 160; *AR* 5, p 47).

Aug. 18. 1366. To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter stating that he and Mr Duncan sent presents and friendly letters to Ran Bahadur Sah, Gurkha Raja of Nepal, and to his *Diwan* telling them that the merchants and pilgrims of that country could now visit Benares safely and a larger number of them should take advantage of the opportunity. Has also received through Mirza Ali Naqi Khan copies of the letters and the list of the presents received from the Gurkha Raja and his *Diwan* by the addressee. Is confident that the Khan will take every step to encourage the merchants and pilgrims visiting Benares from Nepal. (*CI* 20, pp 575-6, no 203; *TI* 35, p 134, no 161; *AR* 5, p 35).

Aug. 18. 1367. To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. Has learnt from his letter to Mr Duncan that he is desirous of giving an entertainment to celebrate the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from illness. Says that this token of his friendship has afforded him great happiness and that he entirely approves of his intention. But as Mr Duncan will also give an entertainment on his (Governor-General's) part, the Nawab is requested to arrange his party on the same day as that gentleman. This will afford him much pleasure. (*CI* 20, pp 576-7, no 204; *TI* 35, pp 134-5, no 162; *AR* 5, p 53).

Aug. 18. 1368. To Raja Madho Singh. Acknowledges the receipt of his *'arzi*. Has also learnt other particulars about it through his *vakil*, Sardar Singh. Says that a definite reply will be given to him after a thorough.

enquiry into the subject of his petition. (*CI* 20, p 577, no 205; *TI* 35, p 135, no. 163; *AR* 5, p 48).

Aug. 19. 1369. From Prince Sulaiman Shikoh. Says that about six months ago he came here (Lucknow) in the hope of obtaining assistance from his lordship but received no encouragement either from him or from the Nawab Vazir. The Vazir also has not done anything which was expected of his fidelity and attachment. He is therefore convinced that his lordship does not approve of his residence 'here' and the Vazir from want of his lordship's permission is unable to do anything. If this is his lordship's wish, it is improper for him to remain 'here' subjected to so much disgrace. He has been staying 'here' for two reasons; firstly to gauge his lordship's friendship and secondly to pass the rainy season. Now as both the objects have been achieved, he does not wish to stay 'here' contrary to his lordship's inclination. But as during this period neither he nor the Vazir has contributed anything towards his expenses, he has incurred a debt of about thirty thousand rupees. His first and foremost object now is the payment of this sum without which he cannot leave 'this' place. Moreover as he has a long journey to make it is not advisable for him to go alone to his destination without having some persons by his side for his protection. It is therefore necessary that he should be furnished with money to liquidate his debt and to meet the expenses of his travelling. Accordingly it is requested that his lordship will ask the Vazir and Mr Ives to furnish him with a lakh of rupees for his expenses. Hopes that this request will be acceded to without delay and that his lordship will write to the Vazir and Mr Ives to pay their respects to him so that he may take leave of them with pleasure. (*OR* 192; *AR* 5, p 24, no 312).

Aug. 19. 1370. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Is extremely glad to learn from the letter of Mirza Ali Naqi Khan that his lordship has arranged to give an entertainment on 28 July on the occasion of the recovery of His Majesty the

1789

King of England from illness. Sends a *nazr* of 7 *ashrafs* which will be presented to him by the said Mirza. Dated 30 July 1789. (OR 193; AR 5, p 1, no 313).

Aug. 19. 1371. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Hopes his lordship has received his previous letters. Ever since he learnt the news of the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness his happiness knows no bounds. May His Majesty live long and prosper. Hopes to be favoured with letters now and then. Refers him to Raushan Ray for further particulars. (OR 194; AR 5, p 11, no 314).

Aug. 19. 1372. From Jagat Seth Harak Chand. Is delighted to learn from the letter of Vaziri Mal that His Majesty the King of England has recovered from his illness. Sends a *nazr* of congratulation on the occasion. (OR 195; AR 5, p 14, no 316).

Aug. 19. 1373. From Jagat Seth Harak Chand. Informs his lordship of his recovery from small-pox. Says that he remained ill for a month and suffered much. But praised be the Almighty, who granted him a new lease of life. Sends a *nazr* which, he hopes, will be accepted by his lordship. (OR 196; AR 5, p 14, no 317).

Aug. 19. 1374. From Kunwar Daulat Singh. Is extremely pleased to hear the news of the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. May he live long and enjoy a prosperous life! Sends a *nazr* through his *vakil*. (OR 197; AR 5, p 8, no 318).

Aug. 19. 1375. From Babu Ausan Singh. Informs him of the death of his wife. (OR 198; AR 5, p 26, no 319).

Aug. 19. 1376. From Raja Ram Kishan. Has deputed his *vakil*, Ganga Parshad, to attend on his lordship and to represent the affairs of his zamindari to him. Commends the *vakil* to his lordship's favour. (OR 199; AR 5, p 27, no 320).

1789

- Aug. 19.* **1377.** From Munshi Muje Lal. Says that some time ago he sent an *'arzi* to his lordship stating that his *jagir* had been sequestrated and consequently a large number of his dependants were starving. The *jagir* was assigned to him by the Vazir (Nawab Asafud-Daulah) and confirmed by the Company. Requests that a letter may be written to Amirud-Daulah (Haider Beg Khan) asking him to restore his *jagir* to the writer and that Mr Ives be directed to see that his lordship's orders are carried out. (*OR* 200).
- Aug. 19.* **1378.** Amendment to the advertisement for proposals of contract for the supply of opium, published on 29 July 1789 (no 1301 above). The contractor to engage to deliver annually 1514 maunds of Bengal opium instead of 1580 maunds and 1000 maunds instead of 1400 maunds of Benares opium. (*CI* 20, pp 585-6, no 213).
- Aug. 20.* **1379.** From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received his lordship's letter enclosing the draft of a proclamation regarding people who deliver themselves up as bondsmen to those who support them in times of distress and want. His lordship desires to know if there is any objection or difficulty in promulgating the order. Says that in this country even the poorest man will not offer to become the slave of another unless for want of sustenance he is confronted with the alternative of life or death. In times of famine or disorder when thousands of men lose their lives some poor men would surrender themselves and their children to some wealthy person for a small consideration, or none at all, in order that their lives might be saved in that hour of utter helplessness. When the crisis has passed some of them would stay with their masters while others run away, if they are not treated well. If the case goes to court the Judge orders the release of such bondsmen who are technically called *ajirs*. But the masters usually treat them with consideration and maintain their honour. Such relationship is advantageous to both parties. In the draft proclamation it is laid down that no one can be made an

ajir without the execution of the prescribed bond before a District Judge. The difficulty in complying with this condition will be that many men who might offer themselves as *ajirs* due to adverse circumstances will not be able to approach the District Judge and would lose all hopes of saving their lives. Similarly, the *mustajirs* (or those who would like to take the *ajirs*) would be deterred by reason of having to undertake long journeys in order to reach the District Judge and then to execute a bond fixing the amount of the wages and the period of the service of the *ajir* according to the direction of the court. In the famine of 1177 Bengali (1770-71 A. D.) and that of the last year thousands perished for want of *mustajirs* to support them. In the opinion of the writer therefore the procedure for adopting an *ajir* should be simplified so that those compelled by want to offer themselves as *ajirs* may get instant relief and save their lives as soon as a *mustajir* agrees to take them. Has accordingly drafted a fresh proclamation which is submitted for his lordship's approval. Dated 22 *Zulqa'da* 1203 A. H. (15 August 1789).

Enclosure :—Draft of a proclamation to be issued by the Governor-General. Whereas it is the ancient custom of this country to keep boys and girls as slaves for stated period and consideration the Governor-General is pleased to promulgate the following rules in order to alleviate the sufferings and improve the lot of such of the poorest people who, faced with starvation and death in abnormal times, offer themselves or their children to serve as *ajirs* to those who would provide them with food and clothing.

1. The District Judge shall take bonds from the zamindars and *ta'alluqdars* under him that if any poor man shall for want of food and clothing become the *ajir* of some well-to-do person or offer his children in that capacity the local zamindar and *ta'alluqdars* shall get a bond executed specifying the amount of the conside-

1789

ration money and the period of service agreed upon by the parties. The bond shall contain the further provision that the *ajir* cannot be sold to any foreigner, must not be oppressed and must be provided with adequate food and clothing. It may be written either in Persian or Bengali and must be witnessed properly and sealed with the seal of a *qazi*. The zamindar and *ta'alluqdar* will also keep a record of the transaction containing the name, father's name and address of both the *ajir* and the *mustajir*. They will also enquire whether the *mustajir* has the means to support the *ajir*. If it is found that he carries on slave trade and purchases ten or twenty more poor children in order to sell them, then he must be produced before the District Judge to be punished according to law.

2. If any person, whether Muslim or Hindu, takes an *ajir*, whether male or female, major or minor, he can employ him or her on such work as is permissible under the Muslim and Hindu law. But anyone found guilty of mutilating the *ajir's* person by cutting off his or her ear or nose, or branding or chaining him or her or committing rape or unnatural offence on him or her or selling him or her to a foreigner as a slave or forcing him or her to lead a life of sin for earning money will be punished by the District Judge according to the law of the land, the *ajir* will be set free and his bond cancelled.

3. The provision of rule 2 shall apply equally to both *ajirs* and *mustajirs*, whether male or female.

4. It shall be optional for the *ajir* either to leave his master after the expiry of the term of the bond or continue with him according to his free choice. If he is detained by the *mustajir* after that period the Court will compel the latter to pay him a reasonable remuneration for his or her services.

5. The rules of this notification shall not apply to those who became *ajirs* or slaves before the date of its promulgation.

6. Any one giving information of any person selling *ajirs* to a foreigner as slaves will receive a stated sum of money as reward. The person who is proved to have been engaged in such trade will receive a deterrent and exemplary punishment.

7. Any one giving information of any person purchasing boys and girls or men or women with the object of exporting them as slaves to another country will receive a monetary reward. The person engaged in such trade will be punished, the *ajirs* will be set free and sent to their homes at the cost of the *mustajirs*. Those who earn their livelihood from the auction of slaves at Calcutta or other towns are warned not to sell *ajirs* as slaves, otherwise they would be punished by the Supreme Court. (OR 201-2 ; AR 5, p 21, no 321).

Aug. 20. 1380. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter stating that he had sent an '*arzi*' together with a *nazr* and some presents to Qutlaq Sultan Begam through Ilahi Bakhsh Khan and Makkhan Lal. (CI 20, pp 577-78, no 206 ; TI 35, p 135, no 164 ; AR 5, p 45).

Aug. 20. 1381. To Mumni Begam. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 578, no 207 ; TI 35, p 136, no 165 ; AR 5, p 48).

Aug. 20. 1382. To the Raja of Burdwan. Acknowledges the receipt of his *arzi* saying that he arrived at Burdwan and is now engaged in preparing the *bilabandi*. Asks him to exert himself in this business. (CI 20, p 578, no 208 ; TI 35, p 136, no 166 ; AR 5, p 37).

Aug. 20. 1383. To Manohar Das. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, pp 578-9, no 209 ; TI 35, p 136, no 167 ; AR 5, p 47).

Aug. 20. 1384. To Babu Ausan Singh. Complimentary reply to his letter of congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty (King of Great Britain). (CI 20, p 579, no 210 ; TI 35, p 136, no 168 ; AR 5, p 51).

1789

- Aug. 20. 1385. To Rajaram Pandit. Is much pleased to learn that according to the wishes of his lordship the addressee made the Gosain (Mangir Gosain) release the brother of the Zamindar of Jahangirnagar and sent him away under the escort of a couple of peons. (*CI* 20, pp 579-80, no 211; *TI* 35, p 137, no 169; *AR* 5, p 52).
- Aug. 22. 1386. From the Raja of Nepal. Has received his letter saying that *dastaks* are not issued by him for the transport of guns. Has learnt the particulars from Dinanath Upaddhaya. This does not matter at all. Seeks his lordship's pleasure and friendship in all circumstances. Thanks him for the gift of a sports gun of English make. Is sorry not to have written to him earlier. The fact is that he was engaged in the celebration of his marriage. Dinanath must have informed his lordship of his (the Raja's) dispute with Lhasa and will now inform him how the talk for a settlement is now in progress. Invites his lordship's attention to previous representation about a certain *tappa* in the Tarai and complains that the Collector of Champaran has not yet restored it to him. Refers him to Dinanath for particulars. (*OR* 203).
- Aug. 22. 1387. *Advertisement*. Notice is hereby given that the Governor-General in Council has been pleased to extend the time for receiving proposals for the supply of the opium of Bengal, Bihar and Benares, to 8 September next, in order that persons residing up country, who may intend to offer proposals, may have sufficient time to send such further instructions as they may think proper to their agents at Calcutta, in consequence of the amendment¹ in the advertisement² of the 29th ultimo, published in the Gazette of the 21st instant. (*CI* 20, p 586, no 214).
- Aug. 26. 1388. From Dil Diler Khan. Offers congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King (of England). (*OR* 204; *AR* 5, p 9, no 323).

¹ *Vide* no 1378 above.

² *Vide* no 1301 above.

1789

- Aug. 26. 1389. From Wasiq Ali Khan.¹ His allowance from the *Nizamat* of Murshidabad was fixed at Rs' 375 by Nawab Muzaffar Jang and he holds a *pinwana* to that effect issued under the seal and signature of Mr Hastings. But the *Nizamat* officers have now reduced the amount. Requests an order therefore to Mr Harington directing him to restore the original amount and pay it himself to the petitioner's brother, Iftikharud-Din Ali Khan. (*OR* 205; *AR* 5, p 33, no 324).
- Aug. 26. 1390. To Mahadaji Sindhia. Has learnt with great pleasure from the letter of Major Palmer as well as from the papers of news that the addressee has recovered from his recent illness.² Offers him, as a friend, his warmest congratulations on this happy event. (*CI* 20, p 413, no 43; *TI* 35, p 137, no 170; *AR* 5, p 54).
- Aug. 26. 1391. To Mahadaji Sindhia. Has received his letter complaining against the reticence of the Nawab Vazir in the affair of Sital Das and the family of Ramratan Modi who have absconded to the Nawab's territories with some royal property and requesting him therefore to persuade the Nawab to carry out immediately the imperial command by sending back the culprits to the Presence together with such effects as may now be found in their possession. Says that immediately on receipt of his letter his lordship communicated the addressee's wishes to the Nawab. The friendship between the Vazir and the Company and the good understanding between the Company and the addressee are equally well-known throughout Hindustan. Neither of them can therefore urge anything at the request of one that may be repugnant to the inclination of the other. From the day of his lordship's arrival in India he has strenuously adhered to his engagements and has always striven to increase and promote friendship, not only with

¹ *Jagirdar* of Khursarai, Hooghly.

² 'His Majesty's recovery' in the vol. of translations, is evidently a mistake.

those who are in alliance with the Company, but also with those whose friendship towards the Company or their allies entitled them to a reciprocal treatment. Refers him to Major Palmer whom His Lordship has written in detail on this subject. (*CI* 20, pp 418-21, no 44; *TI* 35, pp 137-39, no 171; *AR* 5, p 54).

Aug. 26. 1392. To the Deb Raja. Acknowledges the receipt of his presents and letter requesting that tribute for Bijni Bidyagaon¹ be accepted in elephants as before. Says that he has perfectly understood all that the Raja has written to him about the decree that was passed during Mr Hasting's administration in connection with the boundary lines. Assures him that so long as the decision relating to the boundary lines is adhered to by both sides, no amount of misrepresentations by designing persons can impair the friendship existing between them. Reminds him that many months ago definite orders had been issued by the Company's government that the revenues of Bijni Bidyagaon which had conformably to the custom been paid in elephants will no longer be accepted in that form but in cash. Orders once issued cannot be revoked. Trusts therefore that the Raja as a friend of the Company, will not oblige the Governor-General to comply with such requests as would impair the fair name of the English and injure their reputation for firmness in their conduct. Sends a few articles as present in token of his friendship for the addressee. (*CI* 20, pp 421-3, no 45; *TI* 35, pp 139-40, no 172; *AR* 5, p 40).

¹ Bejnee Bedeagong, according to the vol. of translations. Bijni is an estate in Goalpara District, Assam, covering an area of 950 square miles. It is in the possession of the Bijni *raj* family who are the descendants of Shukladwaj *alias* Chila Ray who was the brother of the Koch King, Nar Narayan of Kamarupa. Bidyagaon is also a small estate in the neighbourhood of Bijni. In the early records Bijni and Bidyagaon, although entirely distinct, were confounded under the name of Bejnee Bedeagong. The Raja of Bijni paid the tribute elephants which in 1788 was commuted to a cash payment of Rs 2,000.

1789

- Aug. 26. 1393. To the Zimpen¹ (Governor) of Wancipore². To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, pp 423-4, no 46; *TI* 35, p 140, no 173; *AR* 5, p 56).
- Aug. 26. 1394. To Timpa³ Subah (Timpu Zimpen?). Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 424-5, no. 47; *TI* 35, p 140, no 174; *AR* 5, p 55).
- Aug. 27. 1395. To Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter through Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad. Says that he has perfectly understood the contents of his letter and particularly such parts of it as related to the Nawab Vazir. Thank God that so firm a friendship exists between the Nawab and the Company that measures considered beneficial to one Government are deemed so to the other. The Nawab from his personal regard for his lordship is at all times ready to pay attention to his request. What more can his lordship expect from a friend. The Nawab is the owner of a large territory and master of his own revenues. It must be known to the Prince that a treaty of alliance exists between the Nawab and the Company under which his lordship can at most tender his advice to the Nawab but cannot oblige him to acquiesce in his wishes. With regard to the protection sought by the Prince the Governor-General states that when the late Prince Mirza Jahan-dar Shah made up his mind to set out towards Delhi, the Governor-General had ordered a guard to attend on him up to the confines of the Nawab Vazir's dominions. Will be glad to afford him a similar assistance if the Prince so desires. Refers him to Maulavi Ghulam

¹ Zoonpie, according to the vol. of translations.

² Adempoorah, according to the vol. of translations. This seems to be identical with Wandipore. It is situated in a valley 12 miles below Paraka in Bhutan and has an important fort. Angdaphorang is the modern name of Wandipore.—Marham: *Mission of George Bogle to Tibet*.

³ Timena, according to the vol. of translations. This seems to be identical with Timpu Zimpen, the Governor of Trashichodzung. Trashichodzung is the summer capital of Bhutan. It lies in the valley of the Chinchu river entirely surrounded by lofty mountains.

1789

Muhammad for further particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 426-8, no 48 ; *TI* 35, pp 140-2, no 175 ; *AR* 5, p 47).

Aug. 27. 1396. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Has received through Mir Kamalud-Din Husain Khan his letter together with one address from the Nawab and another from Nawab Nasirul-Mulk (Babar Ali Khan) to his Majesty (the King of England). Has also received as a testimony of the addressee's joy at the recovery of His Majesty from illness a *nazr* of 101 *ashrafs* on his behalf and 5 *ashrafs* each on behalf of his sons and a sum of Rs 7,000 for presentation to the skilful physician who treated and cured His Majesty and a sum of Rs 7,000 for distribution among the poor and the destitute in England. Offers thanks for the congratulations which the addressee has conveyed to him on so happy an event and for the devotion which he shows towards His Majesty. Says that every country and every government have their own established customs and that he is sensible that the Nawab could not have testified his happiness in a stronger manner than by following the customs of Hindustan on such an occasion. But the customs observed in England widely differ from those prevalent in India. Though it is the practice for all His Majesty's loyal subjects to present congratulations on every happy occasion in the form of an address, it is not usual in England to accompany it by any *nazr* or other donations as reward or charity. In accordance with this custom his lordship has forwarded the Nawab's address as well as the address of Nawab Nasirul-Mulk together with their English translations to the Court of Directors who will place them before His Majesty but returns the *nazrs* and donations as it is contrary to the custom of His Majesty's Government to accept such offers. Will write to the Nawab again when an answer is received from England. (*CI* 20, pp 429-30, no 49 ; *TI* 35, pp 143-4, no 176 ; *AR* 5, p 45).

Aug. 27. 1397. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. To the same effect as the foregoing, declining his *nazr* of Rs 25,000 for charity

and a similar amount for presenting to His Majesty's physician. (CI 29, pp 439-2, no 50 : TI 35, pp 144-5, no 177 : AR 5, p 56).

- Aug. 27. 1398. To Haidar Beg Khan and Hasan Riza Khan. Thanks them for their letter of congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty (the King of England) from his illness and acknowledges the receipt of their *nazrs* and addresses on this happy occasion. Says that it is not customary with the King of England to accept congratulatory *nazrs* on such occasions. The Governor-General has therefore refrained from forwarding the same to England. But as the feeling they have displayed deserves every attention, he has made it a point to communicate their congratulations to the Court of Directors in his own letter. Has also kept their addresses with him as a proof of their attachment. Refers them to Tafazzul Husain Khan for particulars. (CI 20, pp 432-3, no 51 : TI 35, pp 145-6, no 178 : AR 5, p 43).
- Aug. 27. 1399. To Umdatun-Nisa Bahu Begam (widow of Nawab Sirajud-Daulah). Acknowledges the receipt of her letter claiming a sum of Rs 1,778-8 as. on account of the income of her *jagir* and a sum of Rs 250/- in respect of her monthly stipend from the *mahals* which are included in the collection of Krishnagar. She further states that the Collector of Nadia (Mr Redfearn) paid the *qists* of each of the two sources upto the month of *Baisakh* 1196 Bengali but he stopped payment from the month of *Jeth* on the plea that the *mahals* in question had been abolished. The Begam therefore requests his lordship to direct the Collector to pay the instalments to her regularly in accordance with the *sanad* granted by the Company. Says in reply that on a reference to her letters to the Collector, it appears that her *vakil* has regularly received for 12 months the sum of Rs 272/- more than the stipend settled on her by the Government. The Collector has therefore under the orders of the Government withheld payment of her monthly allowance until the amount overdrawn is recovered. With regard to

1789

her complaint against the payment of her allowance in *sanawat* rupees, it appears that her *vakil* has uniformly given his receipt for having received payment in sicca rupees. Asks her therefore to make enquiries about it from her *vakil*. (*CI* 20, pp 433-4, no 52; *TI* 35, p 147, no 179; *AR* 5, p 50).

Aug. 27. 1400. To Fateh Singh Gaikwar. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 435, no 53; *TI* 35, pp 147-8, no 180, *AR* 5, p 41).

Aug. 28. 1401. To the King of Siam¹. Capt. Wright, an English merchant, is going back to the dominions of His Majesty and this affords his lordship an opportunity of enquiring after His Majesty's health and of assuring him of the Company's friendship. Is pleased to learn from the Captain about the good qualities of the addressee and of his friendship for the Company. Regrets his inability to comply with the request of His Majesty for the supply of two or three thousand muskets, as a sufficient quantity of them is not available in the arsenal of Bengal. Sends a few presents through the Captain and hopes that His Majesty will accept them as a token of his regard for him. (*CI* 20, pp 436-7, no 54; *TI* 35, pp 148-9, no 181; *AR* 5, p 54).

Aug. 30 1402. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has already written to him about fixing a suitable match for her son Mu'azzam Shah *alias* Mirza Khurram Bakht. As his lordship is the boy's uncle² so she hopes he will propose what is best. Awaits his reply. (*OR* 206; *AR* 5, p 206, no 326).

Aug. 30. 1403. *Jahanabadi Begam to Mr Duncan*³. When her allowance was fixed at Rs 2,000/- she refused to

¹ Now known as Thailand. Phaja Chakkri was the King of Siam from 1782 to 1811—Bowring: *The Kingdom and people of Siam*.

² Prince Jahandar Shah, father of Muazzam Shah, used to call Lord Cornwallis his brother.

³ Received as an enclosure from Mr Duncan, Resident at Benares.

take it but the Resident assured her that it would be increased later on and she acquiesced. But she got no relief. Now she is so hard up that she cannot provide dress for her son and her daughter. The late Prince (Jahandar Shah) esteemed her not a whit less than the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan). He paid her the same allowance as the Begam and in fact paid her some extra money as well. Mr Hastings and the Nawab Vazir offered her *naty* and trays full of presents. In the same manner Mr Ives and other English gentlemen showed their respect towards her. But the addressee does not pay her a visit although he goes to pay his respects to the Begam. Her son, Mirza Shigufta Bakht, has gone to Lucknow without her knowledge and so an estrangement has sprung up between them. Depends on the addressee's brotherly affection to adjust her affairs in such manner that she may not be embarrassed for her expenses and pass her days in comfort. Requests that additional allowances may be fixed for her son and her daughter and the necessary orders may be obtained from Calcutta. Will herself write to Calcutta if the addressee should so advise.

Had asked the *Subadar* of the Company stationed at the *deorhi* to hand over to her the thieves whom they had caught because a few of her own household articles were also stolen. But they did not comply and pleaded that they could not do so without the orders of the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan). Requests that they should be directed to obey her orders just as those of the Begam. The stolen articles should either be recovered or the thieves be handed over to her. Dated 12 August 1789. (OR 207 ; AR 5, p 23, no 327).

Aug. 30. 1404. Mr Duncan to Jahanabadi Begam. Does not expect that her allowance will be increased but has no objection to her writing to Calcutta on the subject. Does not remember to have promised an increase of her allowance at the time it was settled on her. In the opinion

of the writer it would be better for her to go to Lucknow and live there with Mirza Haji¹ who calls her his mother. Otherwise she must remain subordinate to the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan) because it is contrary to the orders from Calcutta that there shall be two heads in the family of the late Prince (Jahandar Shah) residing at Benares. Dated 15 August 1789. (OR 208; AR 5, p 23, no 327).

Aug. 30. **1405.** *Jahanabadi Begam to Mr Duncan.* Has received his letter saying that she could either live here under the Begam (Qutlaq Sultan) or go to Lucknow and live with Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Says in reply that everybody knows how the late Prince had committed Shigufta Bakht to her care and had said that he would serve and obey her. As the Mirza went to Lucknow without her knowledge or consent she became annoyed with him and for a time even correspondence ceased between them. However letters of a formal nature are now exchanged. The Begam also now and then sends somebody to enquire after her health only as a matter of form. When the late Prince married her the Nawab Vazir and the English gentlemen paid due regard to her rank and offered *nazrs* to her. Her position remained the same after the arrival of the Begam. It was only after the death of the Prince that the Begam asserted her superiority and the addressee also supported her in this. But it is not possible that she should remain subservient to any person. The Begam is the mistress of her household and the writer that of her own. If Shigufta Bakht will be obedient to her he is the light of her eye². If not, then she is her own mistress and she will pass her life as an attendant at the tomb of her deceased husband. When she accompanied her husband to pay a visit to His Majesty (Shah Alam) she was received with so much honour that even the princes and princesses came to pay their respects to her. Even now His Majesty the King and Her Majesty Taj Mahal Sahiba personally sign the

¹ This is the nickname of Mirza Shigufta Bakht.

² Term of fond affection applied to one's child.

1789

letters that they write to her just as they do with the letters addressed to the Begam. Asks that he should write to Calcutta citing these instances of the regard paid to her and to exert himself to procure for her an increase in her allowance and the grant of a separate establishment for herself. Hopes he will take a brotherly interest in her case. Dated 23 August 1789. (OR 209; AR 5, p 23, no 327).

Aug. 30 1406.¹ to Babu Pahlwan Singh, *ta'alluqdar* of *Majhwar*². The addressee owes a sum of Rs 11,453-7 as. 6 ps. on account of the revenues and he is evading the payment of it. It is therefore ordered that he should submit a bond for the money within two days and make arrangement for its payment otherwise the *sanad* of his *ta'alluqa* (Majhwar) will be mortgaged to another person. Without the payment of the money he will not have the right to use the lands for cultivation nor will the mortgage be redeemed. (OR 17A).

Sep. 2. 1407. From Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received his letter notifying the appointment of Mr Harington as the Paymaster of the *Nizamat* Stipends in place of Mr Speke who has resigned. Says that the gentleman arrived at Murshidabad and saw the writer who received him with every mark of honour and was much impressed by his excellent qualities. (OR 210 & 212; AR 5, p 19, no 328 & 330).

Sep. 2. 1408. From Babbu Begam. Says that Mr Harington arrived at Murshidabad and reported himself at her *deorhi*. Is much impressed with his good qualities. (OR 211; AR 5, p 5, no 329).

Sep. 2. 1409. From Munni Begam. On 23 *Zulqa'da* (26 August) Mr Harington saw her with his lordship's letter notifying his appointment as the Paymaster of the *Nizamat*

¹ Name of the writer is not forthcoming. Received as an enclosure from the Resident at Benares.

² *Pargana* in Benares District, United Provinces.

Stipends in the place of Mr Speke who has resigned. As he has been selected for appointment by his lordship she is convinced that he (Harington) will exert himself for the betterment and prosperity of the Nizamat. (OR 213; AR 5, p 18, no 331).

Sep. 2. 1410. *Dastak*. Badly worm-eaten. (CI 20, p 586, no 215).

Sep. 2. 1411. *Dastak*. Be it known to the *rahdars*, *guzar bans*, *chaukidars* and others from Sylhet to Benares that¹ is proceeding from Sylhet to Benares. Let no one molest him in any way on his journey. (CI 20, p 587, no 216).

Sep. 2. 1412. *Dastak*. Be it known to the *rahdars*, *guzar bans*, *chaukidars* and others from Sylhet to the Deccan that.....¹ is proceeding from Sylhet to the Deccan. Let no one molest him in any way on his journey. (CI 20, p 507, no 217).

Sep. 4. 1413. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Offers congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King (of England). (OR 214; AR 5, p 15, no 332).

Sep. 5. 1414. From Nawab Asafud-Daulah. The muskets of his army have become unserviceable and his artillery is not good enough for the purpose of attacking forts. As his army is in effect the army of the Company, requests that 10,000 muskets and 10 powerful field pieces may be supplied to him. Is prepared to pay for them. (OR 215; AR 5, p 31, no 333).

Sep. 5. 1415. To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has received her two letters asking him to negotiate a marriage for her son Mirza Khurram Bakht who has now come of age, with the daughter of either Nawab Asafud-Daulah or Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that it is very kind of her to consult him in a matter of this nature. But

¹ The name is not forthcoming.

1789

she must be fully aware that every person, of whatever rank he may be, is master of his own domestic affairs and particularly of the affairs of this nature. It is highly improper that another person should pretend to interfere therein, more especially where the royal family is concerned. It will however afford infinite pleasure to the Governor-General if the marriage is arranged and solemnised. (*CI* 29, p 438, no 55; *TI* 35, pp 151-2, no 183; *AR* 5, p 44).

Sep. 5. **1416.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has already communicated to the Nawab his views relating to Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Has just written a reply¹ to the last letter of the Mirza, a copy of which he transmits to the Nawab. A perusal of this will show to the Nawab how far his lordship considers him the master of his country and treasury. Assures him of his firm desire to keep their friendship inviolate. Will have no objection to the Nawab's following the dictates of his own judgment and experience in his dealings with the Mirza. (*CI* 20, p 441, no 56; *TI* 35, pp 152-3, no 184; *AR* 5, p 56).

Sep. 5. **1417.** To Muhammad Ali Khan, Nawab of Arcot. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter². Regrets his inability to interfere in the matter of the Nawab's revenue which was settled by the treaty³ (of 1787) concluded between the Nawab and Sir John Archibald Campbell.

¹ *Vid.* no 1395 above.

² Not forthcoming but referred to in no 1533 below.*

³ By the treaty of 1787 the Nawab of Arcot agreed to pay to the Company a subsidy of 9 lakhs of pagodas annually in two *qists* for the protection of his country in time of peace, & also 12 lakhs towards the payment of his debts which he had engaged to pay by the treaty of 1785. It was also provided that in case of war breaking out in the Carnatic or on the coast of Coromandel both parties would contribute four-fifths of their revenues for its expenses, the Nawab however being first allowed to deduct from his total revenue 2,12,421 pagodas for *jagirs* and 21,366 pagodas for charitable purposes. He also assigned certain of his districts as security for the punctual payment of his *qists*. The Court of Directors however fixed the subsidy at eleven lakhs instead of 9 lakhs, ten and a half lakhs to be contributed by the Nawab of Arcot and 50,000 to be paid as tribute by the Raja of Tanjore. The Nawab acquiesced in this arrangement after some demur.

Any modification in that arrangement can only be effected by the Court of Directors. Has however, perfect reliance upon the Nawab, but since all the princes are apt to be deceived by the misrepresentations of designing persons, his lordship cannot help suspecting that the deterioration of his country is more likely due to the rapacity and dishonesty of his *'amils* than to the attempt of the Nawab to fulfil his engagements to the Company which, on thoughtful consideration, were based on a *jama'* that his country, under good management, could easily bear. Advises him to put every confidence in the servants of the Company as they are interested not only in the welfare of the English nation but also in the prosperity of their allies. But the other individuals of his nation, who intrude themselves on the Nawab and try to meddle in the administration of his affairs are more generally actuated by motives of personal aggrandisement than a regard for the Nawab's welfare. Requests him to send his communications in future through the Government of Madras. (CI 20, pp 442-3, no 57 : TI 35, pp 149-51, no 182; AR 5, p 56).

Sep. 5. 1418. To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, pp 587-8, no 218 ; TI 35, p 153, no 185 ; AR 5, p 44).

Sep. 5. 1419. *Rajaram Pandit to Bishambhar Pandit*. Raja Darap Singh who was given an elephant, horses, etc. by the Maharaja (Bhonsla of Nagpur) has fled with his family and the aforesaid gifts of the Maharaja and has taken refuge with the Zamindar of Kallikota¹, Atagada¹, Goomsur², etc. These places lie within the jurisdiction of the Chief of Ganjam. The addressee should therefore procure an order from the Governor-General addressed to the Chief of Ganjam directing him to send back the family of the said Raja with the horses, elephant, etc.

¹ Estate in Ganjam District, Madras, lying on the northern boundary of the Presidency. The chief village, Kallikota, is beautifully situated in a basin surrounded by hills.

² Subdivision and taluk in Ganjam District, Madras.

to the writer (Rajaram Pandit). The order should then be forwarded to the writer. (*OR* 216; *AR* 5, p 28, no 334).

Sep. 8. **1420.** From Bishambhar Pandit. As *suba* Orissa is contiguous to Bengal it has always been the practice that if any of the Bhonsla's defaulting talukdars or ryots run away from the border districts like Mayurbhanj, Pataspur, Bhograi,¹ Kamarda¹, Shahbandar, etc. to Midnapore, Jaleswar, Hijili or Kanthi² in the Company's dominions they are delivered up to the authorities in Orissa and similarly any absconders from the Company's territories are handed over to the competent authority. Recently some of the Bhonsla's talukdars have gone over to Midnapore. Requests therefore that the District Officers at Midnapore, Hijili and Kanthi may be directed to hand them over to such of the Bhonsla's officers as may apply for them. (*OR* 217; *AR* 5, p 4, no 335).

Sep. 8. **1421.** To Raja Ram Kishan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter intimating that he has appointed Ganga Parshad to wait upon his lordship as the Raja's *vakil*. Approves of the appointment. (*CI* 20, p 588, no 219; *TI* 35, p 153, no 186; *AR* 5, p 52).

Sep. 8. **1422.** To Babu Ausan Singh. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter informing him about the sad demise of his wife. Says that although the addressee is deeply afflicted, yet as there is no alternative but patience, he should resign himself to the will of God. (*CI* 20, p 588, no 220; *TI* 35, pp 153-4, no 187; *AR* 5, p 51).

Sep. 8. **1423.** To Nawab Faizullah Khan, Nawab Dil Diler Khan, Ali Ibrahim Khan, Jagat Seth Harak Chand, Kunwar Daulat Singh and Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Thanks them for their congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England. (*CI* 20, pp 589-92, nos 221-6; *TI* 35, pp 154-5, nos 188-93; *AR* 5, p 41, etc.).

¹ *Pargana* in Belasore, Orissa.

² Same as Contai, subdivision in Midnapore District, Bengal.

1789

- Sep. 9.* 1424. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Offers congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King of Great Britain and sends a *nazr* of 101 *ashrafs* to be expended as his lordship thinks best. (*OR* 218; *AR* 5, p 11, no 336).
- Sep. 9.* 1425. From Manohar Das. Received his lordship's letter after setting out from Cuttack. There is much inundation on the road owing to the rainy season. Hopes however soon to return to Calcutta and pay his respects to his lordship. (*OR* 219).
- Sep. 9.* 1426. From Beniram Pandit. Thanks him for his letter of condolence. Mir Abul Qasim has not yet arrived at Benares. When he comes the Pandit will endeavour to give him every satisfaction. (*OR* 220; *AR* 5, p 6, no 338).
- Sep. 9.* 1427. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Is highly honoured by the receipt of his lordship's letter accompanying a *khil'at* with jewels for his eldest son, Nasirud-Din Ali Khan. Prays to God for the prosperity of the English King and Company. Sends a *nazr* of seven *ashrafs* through Mirza Ali Naqi Khan and hopes it will be accepted. Dated 19 August 1789. (*OR* 221; *AR* 5, p 1, no 339).
- Sep. 9.* 1428. From Nasirud-Din Ali Khan. Expresses his deep gratitude at the bestowal of a *khil'at* and jewels upon him. Prays for the prosperity of the English King and Company. Sends a *nazr* of five *ashrafs* through Mirza Ali Naqi Khan and begs that it may be accepted. (*OR* 222; *AR* 5, p 25, no 340).
- Sep. 9.* 1429. From Muhammad Zaman Khan, Zamindar of Birbhum. According to the directions of his lordship the District Collector authorised him to form the *band-o-bast* of the zamindari of Birbhum. So he held the *punia* on 7 *Sawan* 1196 (21 July 1789). He also paid the instalment of revenue for the month of *Asarh*. Sends the

naww of *punia* through his *vakil* and begs its acceptance. (OR 223).

Sep. 9. 1430. From Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary. (OR 224. AR 5. p 7).

Sep. 10. 1431. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Commends to his lordship's favour Maharaja Kalyan Singh who is going to wait upon him in order to make certain representations about his personal affairs. As he is an old adherent of the Nawab and the Company it would afford great satisfaction to the writer if his case receives sympathetic consideration. (OR 225; AR 5, p 20, no 343).

Sep. 10. 1432. To Tukoji Holkar. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter requesting exemption from Gaya duties in favour of Ahalya Bai. Says that since his lordship's arrival in India numerous orders and regulations have been passed relating to the exemption from duties at Gaya, such as the submission of a list of the names of pilgrims, etc. but none of these have been enforced in the case of Ahalya Bai. It cannot be unknown to the addressee how important it is to abide by all the government regulations. Yet, out of his lordship's regard for the addressee, he has written to Mr Law, the Collector of Gaya, to exempt Ahalya Bai and her 3,000 attendants from the payment of pilgrim duties at Gaya and also to communicate the order to Mr Ives so that she may perform her pilgrimage at other places without molestation. Refers him to Mr Palmer for particulars. (CI 20, pp 443-4, no 58; TI 35, pp 155-6, no 194; AR 5, p 55).

Sep. 12. 1433. To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Says that he has already communicated to him the results of the conversations that he had with Mir Abul Qasim relating to the treaty of 1768. It was agreed in their discussion that the expenses of the troops to be furnished by the Company in accordance with the terms of the treaty should be fixed and mentioned in the letter of the Governor-General. But as the exact amount was not available at that time

the matter was referred to the Government of Madras. Has now received the figure from there and encloses it for the Nawab's perusal. Requests the Nawab to consider this as an appendix to his previous letter¹ addressed to him on the subject. Desires the Nawab to have the same reliance on his declaration in this respect as in regard to other matters adjusted between him and the Mir.

Enclosure :—

General abstract of the expenses chargeable monthly to the Nizam for the force to be supplied to him.

	Pagodas	Fanams	Cash
For the monthly expenses of two battalions of native infantry fully equipped for field service	8,366	48	75
For the monthly expenses of a detachment of European artillery and gun lascars for the service of six pounders	1,401	16	77
For the use of six brass six pounders, and in consideration of the Company engaging to keep them properly and constantly prepared for the service of the two battalions including the supply of carriages, tumbrils, ammunition and stores of all kinds.	83	14	0
Total	9,851	37	72

(*CI* 20, pp 444-6, no 59 ; *TI* 35, pp 156-7, no 195 ; *AR* 5, p 49).

Sep. 14. 1434. To Mir Abul Qasim. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, p 446, no 60 ; *TI* 35, pp 157-8, no 196 ; *AR* 5, p 48).

¹ *Vide* no 1272 above.

- Sep. 14. **1435.** *Dastak* granted to Maulavi Ghulam Muhammad, *vakil* of Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh who is proceeding from Calcutta to Lucknow¹ and has with him 15 pieces of cloth, 5 boxes of crockery, 1 piece of cloth and a pair of pistols. The *vahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed to give him a safe and free passage. (*CI* 20, pp 592-3, no 227).
- Sep. 16. **1436.** From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Professes attachment and loyalty. His lordship will have perused the *'arzis* sent by him in reply to his own. Hopes for letters every now and then. (*OR* 226 ; *AR* 5, p 11, no 345).
- Sep. 16. **1437.** From Munni Begam. It affords her great comfort and satisfaction to learn that his lordship is always enquiring about her health and welfare through her *vakil*, Nasir Muhammad Khan. Prays for his long life and prosperity and hopes for letters every now and then. (*OR* 227 ; *AR* 5, p 18, no 346).
- Sep. 16. **1438.** From Ram Kishan Tewari. Has come down to Benares from Kotah² and Bundi² and would have proceeded to Calcutta in order to represent to his lordship the friendship and attachment of the Rajas of Kotah and Bundi but is prevented by his illness from doing so. Is therefore sending his brother, Chaturbhuj with Rai Singh who is fully authorised to negotiate on behalf of the aforesaid Rajas. Rai Singh will submit to his lordship any communications he may receive from those Rajas. Maharao Raja Umed Singh, Rajrana Zalim Singh and Maharao Raja Bishan Singh are all attached to his lordship on account of their connection with Maharajadhiraj Sawai Pratap Singh. The writer has settled down at Benares and opened a banking business. Refers to Rai Singh and Chaturbhuj for particulars. Hopes his lordship will conclude with them the engagement which they are negotiating. (*OR* 228 ; *AR* 5, p 27, no 347).

¹ This portion is badly worm-eaten.

² State in Rajputana.

1789

Sep. 16.

1439. To the King of Pegu. Is sorry not to have heard anything from His Majesty for a long time. Says that *Nakhuda Rangyiah* and Capt. Mitu Sayab of the *Lachhmi Narnan* or *Nosbenarah* belonging to His Majesty's minister, Mudi Krishna, have reported to the Governor-General that they had sailed under the orders of His Majesty's government in quest of a large ship which had been caught in bad weather and that they found the said ship on the coast of Coromandel. They further represented that on their way back they touched this port (Calcutta) for a supply of provision and that as they were about to weigh anchor Capt. Gabriel Vrignon, a Frenchman having obtained an order of attachment from the court of justice, seized their ship for the non-payment of a certain sum of money lent by him on respondentia bond when she visited Bengal (in 1784) under the name of *Moonky Danguian*. Thus she was prevented from continuing on her voyage. Says that it was not possible for his lordship to prevent justice from taking its course and as the laws of the country supported the claims of Capt. Vrignon, the Governor-General out of his regard for his Majesty and his desire to convince him of his sincere friendship, paid the entire amount necessary to release the ship in order that she might continue on her voyage¹. Encloses the receipt of the payment. Is con-

¹ On the 5th November 1784 Capt. Gabriel Vrignon, a French inhabitant of Calcutta, advanced Rs 2,500 in cash and material to Abdul Wahid and Shaikh Muhammad Dilawar, inhabitants of Pegu and former proprietors of the *Nosbenarah* or *Lachhmi Narnan* snow for meeting the cost of repairs of the said vessel. Since then the proprietors were never heard of and the debt remained unpaid. But in April 1789, *Nakhuda Rangyiah* and Capt. Mitu Sayab, director and commandant respectively of the snow *Lachhmi Narnan* anchored at the port of Calcutta. Seizing this opportunity Capt. Vrignon, the creditor of Abdul Wahid and Shaikh Muhammad Dilawar, filed a suit against *Nakhuda Rangyiah* and Mitu Sayab for the recovery of his debt and also for the snow's detention till the Court's decision. *Nakhuda Rangyiah* and Capt. Mitu Sayab petitioned the Governor-General for the release of the snow stating that they were engaged in the service of the King of Pegu and that the vessel belonged to the King's minister, Mudi Krishna, by purchase and hence could not be liable for debts formerly contracted by private individuals. The Court decided in favour of Capt. Vrignon and issued orders for the attachment of the snow. In the meantime the Governor-General got himself interested in the case and settled it by ordering payment from the Company's Treasury, of an amount not exceeding Rs 3,000 to Capt. Vrignon.—I. R. D. *Public Proceedings*.

fidant that His Majesty will issue orders for the remittance of the amount in any manner that may appear proper and convenient to him. Also reminds His Majesty of a debt of Rs 19,087-3-3 which his government owes to the settlement of Fort St. George on account of an advance made for his ship *Thunendah* four years ago. Hopes that His Majesty will also direct the payment of the said amount to the Government of Madras without any further delay. Has written to him before that trade should be established between Rangoon and this country for the mutual advantages of both the parties. Hopes that His Majesty will give effect to the suggestion. Sends a few presents as a mark of his esteem for His Majesty. May his power and happiness increase! (*CI* 20, pp 447-8, no 61; *TI* 35, pp 158-61, no 199; *AR* 5, p 51).

Sep. 16. 1440. To the Raja of Nepal. Received his friendly letter. Has learnt from Dinanath Upaddhaya all the particulars relating to the dispute with Lhasa. Hopes that the addressee will inform him about the progress of the negotiations which are going on for a settlement. Is much pleased to receive the presents sent by him through Dinanath. Sends a *khil'at* of six pieces with jewels on the occasion of the Raja's marriage. (*CI* 20, pp 593-4, no 228; *TI* 35, p 158, no 197; *AR* 5, p 49).

Sep. 17. 1441. From Munirud-Daulah. Is sorry not to have received any letters from him for a long time. Though he is certain that his lordship has a soft corner in his heart for him yet it strikes him sometimes that through his ill-luck he may have slipped out of his lordship's mind. All the same he is ever engaged in offering prayers for him as the Poet says: 'Hafiz¹! It is your duty to go on offering prayers. Don't worry yourself whether it is heard or not'. Requests that his lordship would write to him now and then. (*OR* 229; *AR* 5, p 22, no 349).

Sep. 17. 1442. To the *Diwan* of the Raja of Nepal. Complimentary, forwarding a present of a few pieces of cloth

¹ The famous poet of Persia.

1789

and a pistol of English make. (*CI* 20, pp 594-5, no 229 ; *TI* 35, p 158, no 198; *AR* 5, p 49).

Sep. 19. **1443.** From Mir Muhammad Husain. Two years ago he had resigned his post on account of ill-health but was asked to carry on for some months more. After that fresh orders were received and he has been residing 'here' these two years more. During all this time he has been suffering much on account of his health. As the preservation of life takes precedence over all other material considerations, requests permission to resign his office and return to Calcutta. (*OR* 230 ; *AR* 5, p 22, no 348).

Sep. 19. **1444.** From Bhaṇ Bakhshi. The servants of Mr Cherry¹ the Chief of the factory at Broach, issue orders to the inhabitants of the place after the manner of a constituted authority. Further, Mr Cherry took the loan of a bungalow on the bank of the Narbada for a period of two months during the summer season. After that he began to repair the house. Someswar Bhat, the 'Amil of Broach, asked him not to carry out the repairs but he replied that no harm was done, as only the essential repairs were being put through. Six months have passed since but he is not vacating the bungalow and puts forth the plea that he has spent Rs 1,500 over it. It is requested therefore that the gentleman should be asked not to do anything against the wishes of the 'Amil. (*OR* 231 ; *AR* 5, p 4, no 350).

Sep. 19. **1445.** To Nawab Faizullah Khan. To the same effect as no 1398 above. (*CI* 20, pp 449-50, no 62 ; *TI* 35, pp 161-2, no 200 ; *AR* 5, p 41).

Sep. 19 **1446.** *Dastak.* Be it known to the *rahdars*, *guzarbans* *chaukidars* and others that Dinanath Upaddhaya is taking with him a few presents for the Raja of Nepal. Let no one molest him in any way on his journey. (*CI* 20, p 595, no 230).

¹ J. W. Cherry was the Secretary to the Chief and Council of Surat English Factory (1787).

1789

Sep. 20.

1447. *Lord Cornwallis to the Governor of Bombay*¹. Swami Shivanand Saraswati, who is the religious preceptor of Bhao Bakhshi, had entrusted two men, Sadasheo and Raghunath, with the construction of a *math*² and gardens but they gave much trouble and desecrated the *math* itself. Asks him therefore to summon both of them, give them a solemn warning and recover from them all the goods and effects, papers and accounts which were made over to them for executing the aforesaid business. These things as also the aforesaid persons should then be handed over to Suchitanand, a disciple of the said Swami, who lives in Kokan³. He will settle this affair with them. Every attention should be paid to his representation. This would afford satisfaction both to Mahadaji Sindhia and Bhao Bakhshi. (OR 232 ; AR 5, p 4, no 350).

Sep. 20.

1448. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Has received his letter saying that he deems it a great favour to be consulted about the proposed match between Prince Mu'azzam Shah *alias* Mirza Khurram Bakht and the daughter of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah but that he considers it impertinent on his part to say anything about this affair. States that his lordship stands in the relation of an elder of the family to her son and the Nawab Vazir is (like) his uncle. The union between her family and that of the late Nawab Mir Ja'far is of long standing and so she has proposed the match further to strengthen the tie. Sends him a copy of the letter addressed by her to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. (OR 233 ; AR 5, p 15, no 352).

¹ This is a draft submitted by Bhao Bakhshi for issuing to the Governor of Bombay.

² S. *Matha*. cell, chamber, or hut of an ascetic ; the house of a devotee and his disciples, a monastery ; a college for young Brahmins ; an endowed temple or shrine with a dwelling place for the *mahant* and his disciples.

³ Same as Konkan, a name now applied to the tract of country below the Western Ghats south of the Damanganga river, including Bombay, the districts of Thana, Kolaba, Ratnagiri, the coast strip of North Kanara, the States of Janjira, Savantvadi and the Portuguese territory of Goa, with an area of 3,907 square miles—*Imperial Gazetteer of India*

1789

Sep. 20.

1449. *Qutlaq Sultan Begam to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah*.¹ Proposes a union between her family and that of the Nawab (through the marriage of Khurram Bakht, with one of the Nawab's daughters). (OR 234; AR 5, p 15, no 352).

Sep. 20.

1450. *Intelligence from Hyderabad dated 26 August 1789*. On 26 *Zulqa'da* (19 August) the Nizam effected a reconciliation between Nawab A'zamul-Umara and Nawab Shamsul-Umara. First the Nizam went to the house of Shamsul-Umara and immediately after him entered A'zamul-Umara. He took both the nobles by the hand and made them embrace each other and enjoined on them to carry on their duties with a clean heart and warned them that both would be held responsible if government business suffered. Both of them bowed their heads in token of their obedience. After dinner the party dispersed. At the time of departure the host presented one *galamdan*,² one musket, one *doshala* and two cups to the Nizam and a pair of *jighas*, *sarpech*, a pearl necklace and a suit of 7 pieces to A'zamul-Umara and a *sarpech* with a suit of 3 pieces to each of his sons.

On 28 *Zulqa'da* news arrived from Aurangabad that the Maratha troops were still encamped at Paithan.³ Safdar Jang and Muhammad Murad Mirdha, who were appointed to collect the fines imposed upon the bankers of Aurangabad found guilty of embezzlement in the mint, are severely exacting the money regardless of the paying capacity of the individuals concerned.

On 29 *Zulqa'da* it was verbally reported by Tuljaram, *vakil* of Mahabat Jang, that Tipu was still encamped at Coimbatore⁴ and had despatched 16,000 horse towards

¹ Enclosure to the foregoing.

² P. pen-case, pen and ink-case.

³ Town in Aurangabad District, Hyderabad, ancient capital of the Andhras.

⁴ An inland district in the south of the Madras Presidency bounded west and south by the highest hills in the Presidency, the Nilgiris and the Anaimalais. The city of Coimbatore is situated on the left bank of the Noyil river. During the wars with Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan, Coimbatore from its position commanding both the Palghat Gap leading to Malabar and the Gazalhatti pass to Mysore, was of great strategical importance.

Cuddapah. The washermen and sweepers of Hyderabad have been ordered to report to the local police all cases of births, deaths, the arrival of guests and travellers from outside and, in fact, every domestic event like marriage, etc. Failure to do so would entail punishment with fine and imprisonment.

On 2 *Zulhijja* (24 August) Zafarud-Daulah represented to the Nizam that Alaul-Mulk owed to him from a long time a sum of Rs 7,000 on account of jewels sold to him and he therefore begged permission to demand and recover the amount from him. The Nizam replied that he was free to collect his dues. So he posted 50 Abyssinians at his gate and himself sat down there for the whole day. Alaul-Mulk was nonplussed and promised by a written undertaking to pay half the money in eight days' time and gave a *tankwah* on his own *jagir* for the remaining half. The Nizam bestowed upon Zafarud-Daulah one suit from his personal wardrobe. Nowadays he (the Nawab) is very keen on raising his dignity and honour. (*OR* 235 ; *AR* 5, p 14, no 353).

Sep. 23. 1451. From Nur Muhammad of Kabul. Inayatullah, Khairullah, Habibullah and Khwaja Akram who have long been fugitives in 'that' quarter should be sent back to their native land (Afghanistan) through Saiyid Ghulam Muhammad who is going to those parts (India). (*OR* 236 ; *AR* 5, p 25, no 354).

Sep. 23. 1452. From Beniram Pandit. Expresses great satisfaction at the way in which Mr Duncan is conducting the administration of the Benares District. He listens to the representation of everybody, great or small, and redresses their grievances. Some zamindars of the Pandit's *jagir* were giving him trouble but as soon as he brought this to the notice of Mr Duncan he made them execute bonds for good behaviour. These refractory people however reaped some crop and carried it away. So the Pandit applied for *tilanga* guards to check their activities. This request also Mr Duncan granted. The *tilangas* have already cap.

1789

tured one of the two miscreants who were the ringleaders and the other has shut himself up in his house which is fortified like a fortress. But he will be secured in no time. Requests that Mr Duncan may be asked to station the *tilangas* with him on a permanent footing so that the writer may enjoy peace of mind. Hari Bhadar Pandit sends his compliments to his lordship. (OR 237 ; AR 5, p 6, no 355).

Sep. 23. 1453. From Mubarakud-Daulah¹ of Musulipatam. Says that his deceased father, Qutbud-Daulah¹, was a friend of the English and rendered them valuable services by which reason he became very unpopular with some of the chiefs of this country. When his father died, the chiefs of this place (Madras Government) made over his *jagir* to zamindars on the plea that the writer was then a minor. At the same time he was given the assurance that it would be restored to him on his attaining majority. The restoration has been overdue for some years. It is understood that the Governor-General has made enquiries from the Madras Government regarding this case. Prays therefore that when their report is received the necessary orders and *sanads* would be issued. The documents containing the particulars of his deceased father's *jagir* are with his *vakil*, Saiyid Muhammad *alias* Allami Sahib, who will produce them for inspection, if required. (OR 238).

Sep. 23. 1454. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. As desired by the Governor-General he gave a cordial reception to Mir Abul Qasim on his way through Murshidabad. As soon as he heard of the arrival of the Mir at Rangamati² he

¹ Mubarakud-Daulah was the great grandson of Hasan Ali Khan, Nawab of Masulipatam. Hasan Ali Khan had five sons, of whom the eldest Subhan Bakhsh *alias* Rustam Jah succeeded to the title. He (Subhan) left two sons: Qutbud Daulah and Intizamud-Daulah. Qutbud Daulah's claim was passed over because of his misconduct and his younger brother, Intizamud-Daulah was recognised as the head of the family—*Kisna District Gazetteer*.

² Village in Sair subdivision of Murshidabad situated on the west bank of the Bhagirathi, 6 miles south of Berhampore.

sent his *arzbegi*¹ Riza Ali Khan, to enquire about his health and welfare. When he arrived at Amaniganj² Nawabs Nasirul-Mulk, Khalilullah Khan and Shamsud-Daulah Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan went out to receive him. The same day the Mir came and saw the Nawab at his palace. He was accommodated in the house at Sadiq Bagh³ which was kept neat and tidy for his reception. At the time of his departure he was given a present consisting of a pearl necklace, a pair of *jighas*, a *sarpech*, some pieces of Gujarat brocade, *jamdani*⁴, *malmal*⁵, *shabnam*⁶ etc., of superior quality. Nasirul-Mulk presented him with two *tangan*⁷ ponies and some cloths. Similarly, Khalilullah Khan gave him one Arab horse and some cloths. From the day of his arrival to the day of his departure ten dishes were daily served to him. At the time of his farewell visit to the Nawab he offered him and Nasirul-Mulk a present of some jewels and a female elephant. On 24 *Zulqāda* (17 August) he left Sadiq Bagh and resumed his journey onward. (OR 239 ; AR 5, p 20, no 357 .

Sep. 23. **1455.** From Ali Ibrahim Khan. To celebrate the recovery from illness of His Britannic Majesty, great illuminations and rejoicings were held in the city of Benares on 4 September 1789. The garden⁸ of Madho Das, the court buildings, the *ghat* of Beni Madho and the river bank were ablaze with lights. The inhabitants of the city,

¹ An important officer who presents and reads all letters and representations (to a ruler or a great personage).

² Suburb of Mershadabad.

³ In Murshidabad.

⁴ P. a kind of cloth in which the flowers are woven and not worked (generally muslin).

⁵ H. muslin.

⁶ P. a kind of very fine muslin which becomes invisible when wet.

⁷ H. a hill pony.

⁸ Situated in Kotwali ward, Benares. A quadrangle building surrounded by high walls, now the headquarters of the Radhaswamis but more famous as the residence of Warren Hastings during the rebellion of Chait Singh, and afterwards occupied by Wazir Ali on his expulsion from Lucknow.

both high and low, participated in the celebrations. All the European gentlemen assembled in the garden of Madho Das and they were very kind and good to him. Mr Duncan treated him with consideration and never parted company with him at the gathering. Dated 5 September. (OR 240).

- Sep. 23. 1456. From Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan. Although the *punia* ceremony has not been held by him yet he has paid the *qist* for the month of *Bhadon* to the Collector of the District by borrowing money from the bankers. (OR 241).
- Sep. 23. 1457. From Ram Kishan, Raja of Rajshahi. Sends a *nazr* of 5 mohurs on the occasion of the conferment of title (Maharajadhiraj) on him. Reports that he has discharged the *qist* of the month of *Sawan*. (OR 242 ; AR 5, p 27, no 360).
- Sep. 23. 1458. From Raja Basant Ram. Complimentary. (OR 243 ; AR 5, p 6, no 341).
- Sep. 23. 1459. From Lutfun-Nisa Begam. Says that the grant of Rs 305 a month sanctioned for the maintenance of the *qaris*¹, the *langar*², etc. at the tombs of Nawab Mahabat Jang and Bibi Sahiba, *i.e.*, the mother of the late Nawab (Sirajud-Daulah), has not been paid from *Baisakh* 1196 (April 1789) to *Sawan* of the same year. Besides there is an arrear of Rs 490 outstanding on account of the year 1195. The delay is causing much distress to the recipients of the grant while she cannot afford to pay them herself. Requests that his lordship would kindly write to the Collector of Murshidabad to clear the arrears and to pay month by month in future as this is a charitable cause. The merit of this generous act will redound to his goodself. May he prosper ! (OR 244 ; AR 5, p 17, no 362).

¹ *Qari*, A. reader, specially of the Quran. Reading the Quran over the grave of the dead is an act of merit in Islam.

² P. a public kitchen (especially for feeding the poor) ; an almshouse.

1789

- Sep. 23. 1460. From Maharaja Udwant Chand. Sends a *nazr* of 5 *ashrafs* on the occasion of the recovery from illness of His Majesty the King of England. (OR 245; AR 5, p 2, no 363).
- Sep. 23. 1461. From Maharao Raja Bishan Singh and Rajrana Zalim Singh. Complimentary. (OR 246-7; AR 5, pp 6 and 34, nos 364-5).
- Sep. 23. 1462. From Umed Singh, Raja of Kotah. Acknowledges his lordship's letter and professes friendship. (OR 248; AR 5, p 26, no 366).
- Sep. 23. 1463. To Nawab Munirud-Daulah. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, pp 595-6, no 231; TI 35, p 162, no 202; AR 5, p 47).
- Sep. 23. 1464. To Mummi Begam. Complimentary reply. (CI 20, p 596, no 232; TI 35, p 162, no 203; AR 5, p 48).
- Sep. 24. 1465. From Mummi Begam. Ever since she heard the good news of the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from illness it has been her wish to give a party to the English gentlemen on the happy occasion. On account of the monsoon, illumination and fireworks could have no charm then. So she waited. Now the weather is clear once again. Requests therefore that all the officers may be asked to dinner one day on her behalf. Nasir Muhammad Khan, her *vakil*, will arrange for the illumination, fire-work display and the dinner which will be in the European style. (OR 249; AR 5, p 18, no 367).
- Sep. 25. 1466. To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his 'arzi reporting his inability to carry on his duties further on account of his indifferent health. Agreeably to his request permission is granted to him to return to Calcutta. CI 20, pp 450-1, no 63; TI 35, p 162, no 201; AR 5, p 46).

1789

Sep. 26. 1467. From Munni Begam. Rejoices to hear of the arrival of his lordship's brother¹ from Europe and prays for the increase of his dignity and rank. Sends presents with her blessings for his brother. (OR 259: AR 5, p 18, no 368).

Sep. 29. 1468. From Mirza Shigufta Bakht. Is greatly pleased to receive his lordship's letter containing the news of the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. Says that during his stay at Lucknow he was much pleased by the good treatment of the Vazir and the civility of Mr Ives. Complains that he received no share from his father's money, cloths, jewels, gold and silver ornaments, etc., except 4 elephants and 3 horses which were sent to him by Mr Duncan. Is not satisfied with his present allotment of Rs 4,000 which is quite insufficient for his household establishment. He has reduced the number of his servants and curtailed his own expenses to the lowest minimum. Any further reduction in his establishment will be derogatory to his rank and dignity. On the other hand, the Begam (Qurlaq Sultan) regards herself to be the mistress of all his late Royal Highness's (Prince Jahandar Shah's) property and is receiving an allowance of Rs 11,000. Requests therefore that the property of the late Prince should be equally divided either in accordance with law or custom. It should not go to one person only. Reminds him that the late Prince during his lifetime entrusted the writer and his affairs to his lordship's care. Hopes that his lordship will take such steps as may bring him relief and pros-

¹ Sir William Cornwallis (1744-1819) was the son of Charles, first Earl Cornwallis: entered the Navy, 1755; engaged constantly during his service in North America, the Mediterranean, West Indies, etc. until in 1789, he went to India as naval Commander-in-Chief; in 1791, when there was war against Tipu Sultan, he insisted on searching French ships for contraband of war, and when war against France broke out, he seized French ships, Chandernagore and Pondicherry; returned to England, 1794, and saw further service in the Channel and the West Indies; G. C. B.; died July 5, 1819.—C. E. Buckland: *Dictionary of Indian Biography*.

perity. All these particulars will be known to his lordship by the letter of Mr Ives. (OR 251 ; AR 5, p 20).

Sep. 29. 1469. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Is pleased to learn of the recovery from illness of His Majesty the King of England. Offers thanks to God on this happy occasion. Requests him to send her a pair of handsome dogs of a small species. (OR 252 ; AR 5, p 15).

Sep. 30. 1470. From Umdatul-Mulk Sivaji Vithal Rao. Sends Shankar Rao to Calcutta to wait on the Governor-General on his behalf. (OR 253 ; AR 5, p 6).

Sep. 30. 1471. From Balaji Gobind Rao. Complimentary, adding that Rao Shankar Rao is going to his presence. He will communicate every particular to him verbally. Hopes that his lordship will give him a patient hearing. (OR 254 ; AR 5, p 5).

Sep. 30. 1472. From Khande Rao¹. His lordship will have received through Mr Ives the letter which was written by Tukoji Holkar intimating that Ahalya Bai desires to set out for a pilgrimage to the holy places, Kashi, Allahabad, etc. Says that she intends to proceed on her pilgrimage after the rainy season and desires to be exempted from the pilgrim tax. Rao Shankar Rao, who is going to his presence on behalf of Sivaji Vithal Rao and Balaji Rao Gobind, will speak to his lordship on the subject and present to him the letters from Tukoji Holkar and Ahalya Bai. Hopes his lordship will exempt the Bai from the payment of pilgrim tax. (OR 255 ; AR 5, p 32).

Sep. 30. 1473. From the Rani of Burdwan. Sends a *nazr* on the occasion of *Dasahra*. Hopes his lordship will condescend to accept it. (OR 256 ; AR 5, p 3).

¹ Probably Khande Rao who was for more than twenty years *Kamavisdar* of Indore. According to the vol. of abstracts, he was *Diwan* of Tukoji Holkar.

1789

Sep. 30.

1474. From Sa'adat Ali Khan. Expresses his happiness on the occasion of the recovery from illness of His Majesty the King of England. Says that with the approval of Mr Duncan he gave an entertainment to the English gentlemen of Benares and Chunar on 27 *Zulhijja* (18 September 1789) in order to celebrate the occasion. Hopes his lordship will have learnt about it from the newspaper. (*OR* 257; *AR* 5, p 29).

Sep. 30.

1475. From Kunwar Daulat Singh. Has already despatched a letter accompanying a *nazr* on the happy occasion of recovery from illness of His Majesty the King of England. Hopes his lordship has received it. The hardship which he is labouring under is well-known to his lordship. Says that a paper containing his requests together with their (English) translation was submitted to his lordship at Azimabad. Hopes that his lordship will give a sympathetic consideration to it. (*OR* 258; *AR* 5, p 8).

Oct. 1.

1476. To Nawab Dil Diler Khan. Condoles with him on the death of his sister. (*CI* 20, pp 596-7, no 233; *TI* 35, p 163, no 204; *AR* 5, p 40).

Oct. 1.

1477. To the Peshwa and Nana Farnavis. Informs them that Lala Gulab Ray, son of Lala Sewak Ram, who waited on his lordship is now returning to Poona. Requests frequent letters. Refers him to Mr Malet for further particulars. (*CI* 20, p 597, no 234; *TI* 35, p 163, nos 205-6; *AR* 5, p 51, etc.).

Oct. 3.

1478. *Dastak* granted to Lala Gulab Ray, son of Lala Sewak Ram, who is going from Calcutta to Poona and has with him 4 horses, 1 palanquin, 2 camels and 30 men. The *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others are directed not to demand any duties from the Lala on his journey. (*CI* 20, p 598, no 235).

1789

- Oct. 3. 1479. To Munni Begam. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter informing him about her intention of giving an entertainment to celebrate His Majesty's recovery. Is much pleased with her idea but advises her not to proceed with it as it is contrary to the custom¹ amongst the English. (*CI* 20, pp 598-9, no 236; *TI* 35, p 163, no 207; *AR* 5, p 48).
- Oct. 6. 1480. To Prince Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. To the same effect as no 1395 above, adding that with respect to the Prince's desire to stay for six or at the most twelve months at Lucknow, his lordship has communicated his sentiments to Mr Ives. Thinks it his duty at the same time to tell the Prince that the respect which his lordship bears His Majesty urges him to request the Prince to return cheerfully to the royal Presence, should His Majesty be pleased to notify his royal desire to that effect. (*CI* 20, pp 451-5, no 64; *TI* 35, pp 166-8, no 209; *AR* 5, p 47).
- Oct. 6. 1481. *Dastak* granted by the Governor-General, calling upon the *rahdars*, *guzarbans*, *chaukidars* and others to give a safe passage to and demand no duties from the *Guru*¹ of Raja Bachhraj who is going on a pilgrimage from Lucknow to Samet Sikhar² and will come back to Lucknow. He is taking with him 10 bullock-carts, 10 horses, 1 *chhakra*,³ camels, *bahangis*⁴ and 200 companions. (*CI* 20, p 599, no 237).
- Oct. 6. 1482. To the Vazir. After expressing his friendship for the Vazir says that the Governor-General is much

¹ S. lit. 'heavy, weighty', whence metaphorically, a person of weight or respectability, as an elder or parent and specially a spiritual teacher or guide.

² A mountain in the province of Bihar, 136 miles south of Bhagalpur, on which are situated the temples dedicated to Parswanatha (the twenty-third deified saint of the Jains), and one of the principal Jain sanctuaries in Hindustan.—Hamilton : *East India Gazetteer*.

³ H. a two-wheeled bullock-cart.

⁴ H. a stick or pole with slings at both ends for carrying baskets, boxes, etc.

disappointed at the tumultuous conduct¹ of the *Kotwal* and others at Nawabganj and Mirganj. Such things cannot happen but from too great a negligence and want of exertion on the part of the Vazir's government. Where the Company's troops, who are employed in the performance of their duty, according to the regulations approved and supported by the Vazir, are the immediate objects of and sufferers by such acts of open rebellion and riot, it affords little proof that any regulation, however beneficial to the mutual interests it may be, will ever have any chance of being observed in his dominions. Has written his sentiments fully to Mr Ives and desires the Vazir to grant him an interview so that he may explain them to him. Hopes that measures will be taken speedily to prevent the recurrence of such events in future. (*TI* 35, pp 165-7, no 208 ; *AR* 5, p 56).

¹ This refers to the affray that took place between the Company's sepoys and the *amals* of Bahu Begam's *jagir* at Salon. A *beopari* of the Cawnpore brigade went there to bring provisions for the troops. Such provisions were exempted from the payment of transit duties in the Nawab Vazir's dominions. But the *Sairdar* (tax-gatherer) of the Begam's *jagir* seems to have insisted on the payment of the duties. This led to an altercation between them and Col. Fullarton, Commanding Officer at Cawnpore, who sent a *jamadar* with some of the Company's sepoys to the spot to arrest those who had offered obstruction, including the *kotwal*. Thereupon the Begam's *amals* attacked the sepoys and wounded them. The Colonel then despatched a battalion to that place in order to apprehend the people who were principally concerned in the assault and outrages that were committed on the *jamadar* and his party. The Resident at Lucknow on learning this represented the matter to the Vazir who assured him that he would take every step to bring the culprits to book but expressed his astonishment at the conduct of the Colonel in sending a battalion to the Begam's *jagir* on his own authority. The Resident at once wrote to the Colonel who recalled the battalion and the Nawab Vazir sent his own sepoys to quell the disturbance and to apprehend the culprits. Later, when the matter was brought to the notice of the Governor-General, he disapproved the Colonel's conduct and laid down the rule that if there was any grievance, application for redress was in the first instance to be made to the Vazir through the Resident and that no detachment was to be sent for that purpose until reparation should have been refused or unnecessarily delayed, nor even then without the concurrence of the Resident or the sanction of the Commander-in-Chief—I. R. D.: *Secret Proceedings*, 7 October and 18 November, 1789.

1789

- Oct. 9. 1483. To Rao Umed Singh. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 599-600, no 238 ; *TI* 35, p 168, no 210 ; *AR* 5, p 50).
- Oct. 9. 1484. To Raja Zalim Singh. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 600, no 239 ; *TI* 35, p 168, no 211 ; *AR* 5, p 57).
- Oct. 9. 1485. To Raja Bishan Singh. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 600-1, no 240 ; *TI* 35, p 169, no 212 ; *AR* 5, p 38).
- Oct. 9. 1486. To the Raja of Burdwan. Is glad to receive his letter informing him about his payment of the *qist* for the month of *Bhadon*. Says that he should regularly pay his *qists* as it affords him great satisfaction. (*CI* 20, p 601, no 241 ; *TI* 35, p 169, no 213 ; *AR* 5, p 37).
- Oct. 9. 1487. To Raja Ram Kishan, Raja of Rajshahi. Acknowledges the receipt of his '*arzi*' accompanying a *nazr* of 5 mohurs on the occasion of the conferment of title (Maharajadhiraj) on him. Returns the *nazr* as it is a rule with him not to accept it. Is glad to know that he has discharged the *qist* of the month of *Sawan*. (*CI* 20, p 601, no 242 ; *TI* 35, p 169, no 214 ; *AR* 5, p 52).
- Oct. 9. 1488. To Muhammad Zaman Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his '*arzi*' accompanying a *nazr* on the occasion of *punia* which the Khan celebrated on 7 *Sawan* (21 July). Is glad to learn that the addressee has paid the instalment of revenue for the month of *Asarh*. Returns the *nazr* as it is against the practice now to accept it. (*CI* 20, p 602, no 243 ; *TI* 35, pp 169-70, no 215 ; *AR* 5, p 38).
- Oct. 9. 1489. To Ram Kishan Tewari. Acknowledges the receipt of his '*arzi*' accompanying letters of friendship from Maharao Umed Singh, Rajrana Zalim Singh and Raja Bishan Singh through Rai Ram Singh and Chaturbhuj. Is glad to learn of the sincere friendship and attachment of the aforesaid Rajas and hopes that this tie of union will

continue to grow stronger and stronger. (*CI* 20, pp 602-3, no 244; *TI* 35, p 179, no 213; *AR* 5, p 53).

Oct. 9. 1490. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received his friendly letter, together with a draft of a proclamation, in answer to the one the Governor-General wrote to the Nawab on the subject of slave trade. Has studied the draft and is glad to observe that it has been carefully drawn up with a view to the relief of mankind and that it displays great understanding and goodness of heart on the part of the Nawab. Since the writer has great confidence in his abilities and good sense, he transmitted his own draft¹ for his (the Khan's) views and is happy to note the similarity of their opinion on this subject. Will inform the Nawab afterwards with whatever action is taken in this respect. (*CI* 20, p 603, no 245; *TI* 35, p 170, no 217; *AR* 5, p 46).

Oct. 9. 1491. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Has received his letter requesting the supply of 10,000 muskets and 10 powerful field-pieces for the use of his army. Accedes to the request made by him and refers him to Tafazzul Husain Khan for further particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 603-4, no 246; *TI* 35, p 171, no 218; *AR* 5, p 56).

Oct. 9. 1492. To Munni Begam. Complimentary reply to her letter thanking her for her congratulations on the safe arrival of his brother, Commodore Cornwallis, in Bengal. (*CI* 20, pp 604-5, no 247; *TI* 35, p 171, no 219; *AR* 5, p 48).

Oct. 9. 1493. To Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has received his letter. Is glad to learn that on 4 September 1789 great illuminations and rejoicings were held in the city of Benares, and specially in the garden of Madho Das and the Court buildings, in order to celebrate the recovery from illness of His Britannic Majesty. The Khan being a real and sincere well-wisher of His Majesty, it is but natural that

¹ *Vide* no 1326 above.

1789

he should have felt extreme delight on the occasion. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 605, no 248; *TI* 35, no 171, no 220; *AR* 5, p 35).

Oct. 9. 1494. To Saiyid Ahmad Ali Khan, *Qaziul-Quzat*. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 606, no 249; *TI* 35, p 171, p 221; *AR* 5, p 39).

Oct. 9. 1495. To Maharaja Udwant Chand. Has received his letter through his *gumashtha*, Puran Chand, expressing his joy at the news of the recovery from illness of His Britannic Majesty. Says that the Maharaja, being a faithful dependant and well-wisher of His Majesty, cannot but feel delighted on the receipt of such a news. Hopes to hear from him every now and then. (*CI* 20, p 606, no 250; *TI* 35, p 172, no 222; *AR* 5, p 35).

Oct. 9. 1496. To Raja Basant Ram. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, p 607, no 251; *TI* 35, p 172, no 223; *AR* 5, p 36).

Oct. 12. 1497. To Nawab Muhammad Riza Khan. Has received his letter through his *vakil*, Hikmat Maab Khan, accompanying a statement of the account of the Nawab's stipend which he actually received during the residency of Mr Pott and requesting the payment of his arrears. Says that as this matter was so long under investigation the Governor-General could not reply to his letter earlier. The enquiry has now been completed and the claim of the Nawab is fully established. Has written to Mr Harington, Paymaster of the *Nizam* Stipends, to pay to the addressee the sum of Rs 31,000. Asks him therefore to apply to the said gentleman for the amount and to inform the Governor-General when he receives the money. (*CI* 20, pp 607-8, no 252; *TI* 35, pp 172-3, no 124; *AR* 5, p 46).

Oct. 12. 1498. To Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan. To the same effect as no 1493 above. (*CI* 20, p 608, no 253; *TI* 35, p 173, no 253; *AR* 5, p 53).

1789

- Oct.] 12. **1499.** To Sivaji Vithal Rao. Has received his letter. Is glad to learn that he has deputed Shankar Rao as his *vakil* to wait on him at Calcutta. Says that Gopinath Deo, who has come to Calcutta in search of the idol *Machh*, has been granted permission to return. Hopes that he will acquaint him with particulars of the Governor-General's friendship for the addressee. (*CI* 20, p 609, no 254; *TI* 35, p 173, no 226; *AR* 5, p 38).
- Oct. 12. **1500.** To Balaji Gobind Rao. Complimentary. (*CI* 20, pp 609-10, no 255; *TI* 35, p 173, no 227; *AR* 5, p 38).
- Oct. 12. **1501.** To the Rani of Burdwan. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter and declines the *nacr* sent by her on the occasion of *Dasahra*. (*CI* 20, pp 610-11, no 256; *TI* 35, p 173, no 228; *AR* 5, p 37).
- Oct. 13. **1502.** To Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. Has received his letter expressing his extreme delight at the recovery from illness of His Britannic Majesty and enclosing an address of congratulation to be forwarded to Europe by a fast vessel for the perusal of His Majesty. Says that since the Nawab is a real and sincere well-wisher of His Majesty and a faithful friend of the Company, the Governor-General is convinced that the news of His Majesty's recovery must have given him unbounded happiness. This testimony of his friendship calls for the Governor-General's warmest thanks and his wishes for the Nawab's prosperity and success. Will transmit the address of congratulation to Europe without delay and will forward the answer as soon as he receives it. (*CI* 20, pp 611-12, no 257; *TI* 35, pp 174-5, no 229; *AR* 5, p 49).
- Oct. 13. **1503.** To Nawab A'zamul Umara. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, p 612, no 258; *TI* 35, p 175, no 230; *AR* 5, p 36).
- Oct. 13. **1504.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah of Masulipatam. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter requesting the restoration of his *jagir*. Has also learnt other particulars

from his *wakil*, Saiyid Muhammad *alias* Allami Sahib. Says in reply that his lordship has made enquiries from the Madras Government on the subject and that necessary orders will be issued as soon as the report is received. (*CI* 20, p 613, no 259 ; *TI* 35, p 175, no 231 ; *AR* 5, p 45).

Oct. 13. 1505. To Muzaffar Jang, Nawab of Farrukhabad. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 614-15, no 261 ; *TI* 35 pp 175-6, no 232 ; *AR* 5, p 41).

Oct. 13. 1506. To Khiradmand Khan. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 613-14, no 260 ; *TI* 35, p 176, no 233 ; *AR* 5, p 44).

Oct. 13. 1507. Mr Cherry, Persian Translator, to Dinanath Upadhyaya, *wakil* of the Raja of Nepal. Says that the Governor-General has directed him to communicate to the addressee that his lordship has been informed by the Collector of Purnea that he (the Collector) had asked the *wakils* of the *suba* of Morang¹ and Terakharda² to state if they had any objections to the boundaries fixed according to an investigation made some months ago. To this the former assented but the latter stated that a few *bighas* of land had been taken unjustly from him and requested its restoration. On enquiry it appeared that a practice of mutual encroachment and cultivating in each other's territories had been so common as to render it impracticable to settle a boundary without injury to either party. He, the Collector, has therefore recommended to the Governor-General to fix the boundary on the same line as was decided by Mr Pagan³ and to put up proper marks to ascertain it in future.

His lordship desires the addressee to communicate this mode of settling the boundary to the Raja of Nepal and, in case of its meeting with his approbation, to request

¹ An old name for the Nepal Tarai lying north of the Purnea District.

² *Pargana* in Purnea District, Bihar.

³ Mr Pagan, according to the vol. of translations. The Persian copy is worn out.

1789

him to depute immediately agents with powers to mark off the boundary line in concert with the officers of this Government. In the meantime the Raja should be requested to issue the strictest injunctions to his officers in the country of Morang to refrain from making any further encroachments, or attempting to take possession of any lands, or the crops thereon, now in the possession of the ryots of this Government.

His lordship is sorry to observe the disposition of the Gurkha officers to make this subject a matter of dispute and of late the conduct of the *suba* of Morang has been remarkably petulant and he has written letters to the Collector of Purnea addressing him in a style contrary to the established custom.

In the end the writer requests the addressee to assure the Raja of the Governor-General's friendship. (*CI* 20, pp 616-18, no 265 ; *TI* 35, pp 176-78, no 234 ; *AR* 5, p 40).

Oct. 14. 1508. To Rajaram Pandit. Has learnt from the letter of Bishambhar Pandit that several persons of 'that' quarter have taken shelter in Midnapore and Hijili and that he (the addressee) has requested that they might be delivered up to the authorities at Orissa. Has also received letters on this subject from the Collector of Midnapore who has further intimated that a person named Moti Ram Dadu¹ has seized and carried off an inhabitant of the Company's territories. Says that the Governor-General has already given the addressee a convincing proof of the fact that it is not his wish to afford an asylum to any of the absconders from Cuttack by delivering up the person who had taken refuge in Ganjam. Other fugitives also will be similarly delivered up but, as an indispensable preliminary, the person seized by Moti Ram Dadu should be handed over to the Collector of Midnapore. (*CI* 20, pp 615-16, no 262 ; *TI* 35, pp 178-9, no 235 ; *AR* 5, p 52).

¹ He was the *naib* of Pataspur on the part of the Maratha government.

1789

- Oct. 16. 1509. *Dastak* granted to Saleemullah Khan, brother of Tafazzul Husain Khan, who is proceeding from Calcutta to Lucknow with necessaries. (CI 29, p 616, no 263).
- Oct. 21. 1510. *Dastak* granted to Babu Purnan Chand, *gumastha* of Maharaja Udwan Chand, who is proceeding from Calcutta to Patna with his dependants and has with him 4 boats and other articles of necessity. (CI 29, p 616, no 264).
- Oct. 30. 1511. *Dastak* granted for the transport of *dandan-i-mohr* which is being taken from Calcutta to Lucknow by river for the Nawab Vazir. (CI 29, p 618, no 266).
- Nov. 1. 1512. From Mir Abul Qasim. Says that on arriving at Azimabad he fell ill and was obliged to stay there for a month. He is better now and is leaving for Benares 'today' 4 *Safar* (24 October 1789). From there he will proceed to Hyderabad. Other particulars in detail will be known to his lordship by the letter of Mr Cherry. (OR 259).
- Nov. 1. 1513. *Mir Abul Qasim to Mr Cherry*. To the same effect as the foregoing with the following addition. The travelling expenses that were given to him for his journey from Calcutta to Hyderabad have been totally exhausted. There are yet 3 months before him to complete his journey. Requests that his case may be recommended to the Governor-General so that he may be furnished with another Rs 10,000 at Benares before he leaves for Hyderabad. Hopes that his lordship will favourably consider his case.
- P.S.—Is enclosing a letter for the Governor-General and requests him to transmit the same to his lordship. (OR 260).
- Nov. 1. 1514. From the Nawab Vazir. Congratulates the Governor-General on the safe arrival from England of his brother Commodore William Cornwallis. (OR 261; AR 5, p 31).

¹ P. the bones of a certain fish of which knife-handles are made.

1789

- Nov. 1. 1515. From Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (OR 262).
- Nov. 1. 1516. From Hasan Riza Khan. To the same effect. (OR 263; AR 5, p 13).
- Nov. 1. 1517. From Mir Muhammad Husain. Says that he had submitted his resignation two months ago due to his prolonged illness. Later he felt somewhat better and so he gave up the idea of resigning his service. But as his old trouble has recurred and has made him unfit to continue in his service, requests that his lordship will accept his resignation. (OR 264; AR 5, p 22).
- Nov. 3. 1518. From A'zamul-Umara. Thanks his lordship for the sword which he has so kindly sent to him. (OR 265; AR 5, p 2).
- Nov. 3. 1519. *Dastak* granted to the son and dependants of Manju Chaudhri, an inhabitant of Cuttack, who are going on a pilgrimage to Samet Sikhar and have with them one elephant, 2 palanquins, 7 *chaupalas*, 7 chariots, some camels and a number of followers. (CI 20, p 618, no 267).
- Nov. 3. 1520. *Dastak* granted to the dependants of Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan who are going from Murshidabad to Benares with necessaries. (CI 20, p 619, no 268).
- Nov. 3. 1521. *Dastak* granted to the mother of Rai Manik Chand, *Diwan* of Munni Begam, who is proceeding from Murshidabad to Benares and Allahabad and has with her followers and provisions, etc. (CI 20, p 619, no 269).
- Nov. 4. 1522. From the Queen of Cannanore. Refers him to her previous letter in which she had complained against a sailor (Agha Muhammad) who, having defrauded her of a considerable sum of money had absconded into the Company's territories. Hopes that his lordship will settle this case. Is sending Haji Muhammad Sa'id, a sailor, with a ship to his lordship. The Haji will make certain representations on her behalf. Hopes that his lordship will give him a hearing (OR 266; AR 5, p 7).

1789

Nov. 4.

1523. From Uttam Chand. Had already informed the Governor-General of his arrival at Lucknow for a change of climate. Says that he derived no benefit from this change and therefore left that place for Benares where he reached on 4 *Muharram*-24 September 1789. (OR 267; AR 5, p 25).

Nov. 4.

1524. From the Nawab Vazir. Is pleased to learn that the Governor-General has consented to comply with his request for the supply of muskets and guns. Requests his lordship to make them over to his *wakil*, Tafazzul Husain Khan, who will arrange for their transmission. Hopes that his lordship will also favourably consider the request of his *wakil* relating to the supply of gun-carriages (OR 268; AR 5, p 33).

Nov. 4.

1525. From the Raja of Burdwan. Says that the *gists* up to the month of *Bhadon* have already been paid. Intimates that he has now paid the *gist* for the month of *Asin* to the Collector of Burdwan. (OR 269; AR 5, p 3).

Nov. 4.

1526. From the Nawab Vazir. Has received his friendly letter. Is glad to learn all that he verbally communicated through Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Says that he has no concern with any power in India except the Company and has full reliance on the support of the Governor-General and the other English chiefs for the improvement of his affairs. Hopes the Governor-General will write to him every now and then. (OR 270; AR 5, p 31).

Nov. 4.

1527. To Haidar Beg Khan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter through Tafazzul Husain Khan together with the paper containing an account of the affray¹ that took place at Salon.² Is surprised to learn of this incident which he thinks must have occurred due to the carelessness of persons responsible for the maintenance of peace and

¹ *Vide* no 1482, footnote.

² *Tahsil* and ancient town in Rae Bareli District, United Provinces.

tranquillity. A relaxed rein can never curb the impetuosity of refractory men long used to mild government. A good administration can only be obtained by a suitable application of mildness combined with severity and by a vigilant watch over every branch of its jurisdiction. Is however sensible of the addressee's zeal in the service of both the Company and the Nawab Vazir and is confident that his efforts in this direction will put a stop to such occurrences in future. Hopes that the principal persons concerned in the fray will be suitably punished. While he is perfectly satisfied that the circumstances will be fully investigated, requests the Khan to send to him a copy of the sentence passed on the culprits prior to its being carried into execution in order that his lordship may judge of it and inform him of his opinion. (*CI* 20, pp 456-8, no 65; *TI* 35, pp 179-81, no 236; *AR* 5, p 42).

Nov. 5. 1528. To Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Acknowledges the receipt of her letter. Is glad to learn of her satisfaction at the attention shown to her by Mr Duncan. Says that the said gentleman is fully acquainted with his lordship's sentiments and that he will make them known to her on his return to Benares. Refers her to his former letters written on the subject of the reduction of her allowance by Rs 1,000 and the completion of the tomb of her late husband. In those letters the Governor-General had explained to her the connection subsisting between the Company and the Nawab Vazir and had also declared his policy in relation to the chiefs of Hindustan and the line of conduct necessary for the British Government to follow during the prevailing contentions in the Empire. This conduct his lordship has strictly adhered to and the interests and welfare of the Government entrusted to his charge necessitates the prudence of persevering in it. Has also received a copy of her *shugqa* addressed to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah on the subject of the marriage of Mirza Khurram Bakht. Has already communicated his sentiments to the Begam in this matter. Should the

1789

Nawab seek his lordship's opinion on the subject, the Begam may rest assured that he will write a suitable answer to him. (CI 20, pp 458-61, no 66; TI 35, pp 181-3, no 237; AR 5, p 44).

Nov. 9. 1529. From Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Is much pleased to receive his letter through Mr Johnstone. Is highly satisfied with his lordship's suggestion that the writer should remain at Lucknow for some time more. His lordship had written to Mr Johnstone and the Nawab Vazir to visit the writer but as the latter had been out on a hunting excursion he sent Amirud-Daulah (Haidar Beg Khan) on his behalf. 'Today', 10 *Safar* (30 October 1789). Mr Johnstone and Amirud-Daulah came to pay their respects to him. (OR 271; AR 5, p 24).

Nov. 9. 1530. From Mahadaji Sindhia. Is pleased to receive his lordship's friendly letter relating to the culprits (Sital Das and the sons of Ramratan). The writer received repeated orders from His Majesty on the subject of sending them back to Delhi but the Nawab Vazir is adamant. Any protection given to these guilty people who have injured the *saltanat*¹ will be an encouragement to others to persevere in their refractory conduct. They should therefore be sent to His Majesty together with the royal property misappropriated by them. Requests that his lordship will use his influence with the Nawab Vazir and prevail upon him to deliver up the aforesaid culprits. (OR 272; AR 5, p 29).

Nov. 9. 1531. From the Nawab Vazir. Says that the Company's brigades stationed in his country are a source of strength and credit to him and that he is on the best of terms with the military officers and in fact with all the English gentlemen. He has notified all his officers that no duties are to be charged on provisions that are brought from different parts of the country for the use of the brigades. In the beginning whoever acted contrary to this order was punished and so there was no more trouble

¹ P. dominion, empire, sovereignty, kingdom.

about it. Lately the *amala* of the *mahals* of Mirganj and Salon, which are the *jagirs* of his mother, offered some opposition to the *beopari* of the bazar of the Cawnpore brigade and the Colonel¹ sent his men to punish the said *amala* without informing the Nawab. As soon as he learnt of the incident from Mr Ives the Nawab sent a guard to apprehend the men whom the Colonel had named. Assures his lordship that the culprits will be punished according to their desert. The *Kotwal* of Nandiganj has also been arrested. A liaison officer on the Nawab's part has long been stationed with the Cawnpore brigade and proper steps have always been taken to remove any cause of complaint. Should the Colonel have any grievance against any one he can inform that officer or send word of it to the Nawab through the Resident and suitable action will be taken immediately. (OR 273).

Nov. 11. 1532. From the Nawab of Arcot. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter. Says that in future he will send all his communications through the Governor and the Council of Madras. When Commodore William Cornwallis visited this quarter the Nawab sent his son to him to make certain representations on his behalf for communicating them to his lordship. Governor Holland acted as an interpreter on the occasion. Professes his friendship and adherence to the English Company and the English nation. (OR 274 ; AR 5, p 33).

Nov. 11. 1533. From the Nawab of Arcot. Had despatched a letter to his lordship on 26 July by which he would have learnt about the difficulties and embarrassment that the treaty of February 1787² has brought on him. He would also have learnt the full particulars about him from his brother Commodore William Cornwallis, who visited this place (Madras) on the 3rd instant. The writer, in the hope of

¹ Col. John Fullarton, Officer Commanding at Cawnpore.

² Vide no 1417, footnote.

getting back his right, that is Tanjore¹, had engaged to pay 21 lakhs² of pagodas annually to the Company. But due to his bad luck he could not get back Tanjore and yet such a heavy amount has to be paid by him. Requests him therefore to grant him propionate remission on this account. If, however, this is beyond his competence, requests him to prevail upon the authorities in England to grant him the remission and also begs that the Government of Madras may be directed to carry out the provisions of the 15th³ and the 4th⁴ articles of the aforesaid treaty. His lordship is his only well-wisher in this world and it is hoped that he will remove his difficulties. Transmits regularly all the newspapers that he receives about Tipu to the

¹ A Maratha principality in the Southern Carnatic, known by the name of Chola Dessa in olden times. It was occupied by the English in 1773 but in 1776 it was restored to its Raja and Tanjore became a protected State. In 1790, shortly after his accession Sarabhoji, the Raja of Tanjore, ceded his territory to the Company with the exception of the city and fort of Tanjore which he retained for himself. He died in 1832 and was succeeded by his only son Siraji; on whose death without heir in 1858 the titular dignity became extinct and the fort and city became British territory. Tanjore is now a district of the Madras Presidency with the city of Tanjore as its headquarters.—*Imperial Gazetteer of India*; Hamilton: *East India Gazetteer*.

² 9 lakhs subsidy and 12 lakhs towards the payment of his debt.

³ The 15th article runs as follows:—Whenever the Company shall enter into any negotiations wherein the interests of the Carnatic and its dependencies may be concerned, the President in Council of Fort St. George shall communicate the proceedings to his highness the Nawab of the Carnatic as the firm ally of the Company; and although the direction of the combined force of the country is committed entirely to the Honourable Company or their representatives, it is nevertheless understood that His Highness shall be informed of all measures which shall relate to the declaring of war or making peace with any of the princes and powers of Hindustan, so far as the interests of the Carnatic may be immediately concerned therein, and the name of His Highness shall be inserted in all treaties regarding the Carnatic, and His Highness will not enter into any political negotiations or controversies with any State or power without the consent or approbation of the President in Council of Fort St. George.

⁴ The 4th article:—That for the satisfaction of His Highness the Nawab of the Carnatic, his heirs and successors, the President and Council of Fort St. George shall furnish His Highness annually with an accurate account, shewing the number of troops maintained and the names and situations of the garrisons supported by the annual contributions, and particularly the troops and garrisons maintained by the nine lakhs of pagodas annually contributed by His Highness to the general defence.

Governor of Madras. Warns his lordship that Tipu and other Indian chiefs are not fit to be trusted. (OR 275 ; AR 5, p 33).

Nov. 11. 1534. From Haidar Beg Khan. Says that he was distressed to learn about his lordship's indisposition some time ago. Is now much delighted to hear the happy news of his recovery. Since the time of his lordship's arrival as Governor-General people are enjoying peace and happiness everywhere. Is unable to thank him adequately for his favours and kindnesses that are ever shown to him (OR 276 ; AR 5, p 13).

Nov. 11. 1535. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Says that several Muslim students of the Calcutta Madrasah are confined on account of the Hindu-Muslim riot that took place in Calcutta on 7 *Muharram* (28 September 1789). In this connection all the learned and pious Muslims have appealed to the writer for their release. Requests his lordship therefore kindly to consider their case and see that they are released, if their guilt is not proved. (OR 277 ; AR 5, p 20).

Nov. 11. 1536. From Munni Begam. Encloses the petition of the learned and pious Muslims who have made an appeal for the release of such Muslim students of the Calcutta Madrasah as were arrested during the Hindu-Muslim riot at Calcutta on 7 *Muharram* (28 September 1789). (OR 278 ; AR 5, p 18).

Nov. 11. 1537. *Saiyid Jalalud-Din and others to Munni Begam.* Say that ever since the establishment of the Muhammadan government the Hindus never interfered in the religious ceremonies of the Musalmans and the latter always observed their religious customs freely. But this year on 7 *Muharram* (28 September) just at the time of the *tazia*¹

¹ P. a representation or model of the tombs of Hasan and Husain, which is carried in procession at the *Muharram* by the Indian Shias chiefly. It is usually made of a light frame-work of bamboo slips covered with paper, painted and ornamented with mica and glass, and artificial flowers, and illuminated within and without : it is sometimes of considerable size and elaborate execution, and, according to the wealth and piety of the owner, may be constructed of more costly materials, as glass, ivory, sandal wood, or silver : the common ones are usually thrown away or destroyed at the end of the solemnization, the more valuable ones are preserved.

procession some haughty Hindus brought out their Devi (image of goddess Durga), met the *taziadars*¹ on the way and the parties came to a clash. If they had not brought out the Devi at the same time as the *tazias* but had performed their religious ceremonies earlier in the day the riot would never have broken out. This act of the Hindus was unprecedented. On the next day the son of one Kanai gathered together a large number of Hindus and attacked the *tazias* and *taziadars* in their homes and insulted them. Thus the Hindus were the aggressors. The Musalmans could not stand such humiliation and so a large number of Muslim riff-raffs gathered and attacked the house of Kanai. Thus there were many casualties on both the days. In this connection some Muslim students of the Madrasah (Calcutta Madrasah) have been arrested and thrown into confinement. But no steps have been taken against the Hindus who were the sole cause of this riot. Request therefore that the addressee may kindly write to the Governor-General to do justice and release those students. (OR 279 ; AR 5, p 18).

Nov. 11. 1538. From the Raja of Burdwan. Says that at the time of settlement it was agreed that the writer would pay a fixed amount of revenue to the Treasury and not a pie more. Accordingly he has been depositing the fixed amount into the Treasury. But now he has been informed by the Collector of the district that a sum of Rs 15,000 has been deducted from the amount tendered by him in order to pay the *rusum* to the Secretary. As it is contrary to the terms of the settlement he requests his lordship kindly to refund the money and credit it to his account. (OR 280 ; AR 5, p 3).

Nov. 11. 1539. From Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary. (OR 281 ; AR 5, p 11).

Nov. 14. 1540. To Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Offers condolence on the death of his brother, Chimnaji Bapu. (CI 20, pp 619-20, no 270; TI 35, p 183, no 238 ; AR 5, p 52).

¹ P. a person who sets up a *tazia* at the *Muharram*.

1789

- Nov. 14. 1541. To Nawab Faizullah Khan. Complimentary reply to his two letters received through Lala Raushan Ray. (CI 20, p 620, no 271 ; TI 35, p 182, no 239 ; AR 5, p 41).
- Nov. 14. 1542. To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Complimentary reply to his letters of congratulation on the arrival of Commodore William Cornwallis at Calcutta. (CI 20, p 620, no 272 ; TI 35, p 183, no 240 ; AR 5, p 35).
- Nov. 14. 1543. To Bhao Bakhshi. Thanks him for his congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. (CI 20, p 621, no 273 ; TI 35, pp 183-4, no 241 ; AR 5, p 36).
- Nov. 14. 1544. To Muhammad Riza Khan. To the same effect as no 1542 above. (CI 20, pp 621-2, no 274 ; TI 35, p 184, no 242 ; AR 5, p 46).
- Nov. 14. 1545. To Maharaja Radha Nath of Dinajpur. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter accompanying a *nazr* on the occasion of *Dasahra*. Returns the *nazr* as it is not the custom now to accept it. Hopes for letters now and then. (CI 20, p 622, no 275 ; TI 35, p 184, no 243 ; AR 5, p 39).
- Nov. 14. 1546. To Ganesh Rao. Is glad to receive his letter through Bhagwant Rao informing his lordship that the dispute which arose between him and Babu Ausan Singh a year ago has now been settled by Mr Duncan. Desires him to continue writing the events of 'that' quarter. (CI 20, p 622, no 276 ; TI 35, p 184, no 244 ; AR 5, p 42).
- Nov. 14. 1547. *Dastak*. Be it known to the *chaukidars*, *rahdars* and others that the collection of the *jagir* of Beniram Pandit is being brought from Shahbandar to Calcutta. They are directed to give it a safe passage. (CI 20, p 622, no 277).
- Nov. 18. 1548. From Ali Ibrahim Khan. Has learnt from the newspaper of 2 *Safar* (22 October 1789) that Timur Shah with 60,000 soldiers has crossed the Attock and has des-

patched 2 regiments in order to collect the revenue of Sind and to arrest Bahawal Khan. He intends to send an army towards Bikaner also. For this reason the Sikh *sardars* of Lahore have written a letter to the Raja of Jodhpur stating that the latter has invited Timur Shah to Hindustan in the hope that it will bring him some advantage but they are sure it will prove otherwise. They have added that if the Raja gave up the idea of inviting Timur Shah they would afford him every assistance. When King Shah Alam learnt this news he wrote to the Raja of Jainagar asking him not to invite Timur Shah as it will be the cause of his destruction. (OR 282 ; AR 5, p 1).

Nov. 18. 1549. From Qutlaq Sultan Begam. Is pleased to receive his letter in reply to her *shuggas*. Believes that his lordship has written to Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah about the marriage of his daughter with her son (Princee Khurram). Hope that his lordship will see that this match is settled. Regards him as her only well-wisher in this world. (OR 282 ; AR 5, p 15).

Nov. 20. 1550. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah, Nawab Hasan Riza Khan and Nawab Haidar Beg Khan. Thanks them for their congratulations on the arrival of Commodore Cornwallis. (CI 29, p 623, no 278 ; TI 35, pp 184-5, nos 245-6 ; AR 5, p 56).

Nov. 20. 1551. To Mir Abul Qasim. Has received his letter intimating that on his arrival at Patna he fell ill and was obliged to stay there for a month and that, being better he was leaving for Benares. Has also learnt further particulars from his letter addressed to Mr Cherry. Expresses his joy and satisfaction at his recovery and prays that he may reach his destination (Hyderabad) safe and sound. With regard to his request (for a further supply of money) contained in his letter to Mr Cherry¹ refers him to the letter of the said gentleman. (CI 20, pp 623-4, no 279 ; TI 35, p 185, no 247 ; AR 5, p 48).

¹ Vide no 1513 above.

1789

- Nov. 20. 1552. To Uttam Chand. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter intimating that he derived no benefit from the change of climate at Lucknow and that he has therefore moved to Benares. Prays that the climate of Benares may improve his health. (*CI 20, p 624, no 280 ; TI 35, p 185, no 248 ; AR 5, p 50*).
- Nov. 20. 1553. To Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Is glad to learn that after paying a visit to Poona and meeting with the Peshwa, his ministers and Mr Malet, he has returned safely to Nagpur. Is also pleased to hear all about the hearty reception that he was accorded there. (*CI 20, pp 624-5, no 281 ; TI 35, p 185, no 249 ; AR 5, p 52*).
- Nov. 20. 1554. To Mir Muhammad Husain. Has received his two letters. In the first he has communicated some news about Tipu Sultan and narrated the events that occurred at Hyderabad. In the other he has requested his lordship to accept his resignation as there has been a relapse of his old malady which has made him unfit to continue in his service. Is grieved to hear about his ill health and says in reply that his request would have been complied with in the very first instance but as the addressee felt somewhat better and gave up the idea of resigning his service his lordship hesitated and did not write to him. Now that he has requested again, his lordship grants him permission to come to Calcutta although the Mir gave him every satisfaction during his stay at the Nizam's court. (*CI 20, pp 626-7, no 282 ; TI 35, p 186, no 250 ; AR 5, p 46*).
- Nov. 23. 1555. To Madhav Rao Narayan Peshwa. Thanks him for his letter and the present of cloths manufactured in the Maratha districts. (*CI 20, pp 461-2, no 67 ; TI 35, p 186, no 251 ; AR 5, p 11*).
- Nov. 23. 1556. To Nana Farnavis. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI 20, pp 461-2, no 67 ; TI 35, p 186 ; no 252 ; AR 5, p 50*).

1789

Nov. 23. 1557. To Bahiropanth¹. To the same effect, referring him to Mr Malet for further particulars. (*CI* 20, pp 462-3, no 68 ; *TI* 35, pp 186-7, no 253 ; *AR* 5, p 38).

Nov. 23. 1558. Memorandum giving the particulars of the cost of muskets, cannon and shots supplied to the Nawab Vazir (Asafud-Daulah). This does not include the transportation charges.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Cost of 10,000 muskets complete with ramrod and bayonets . . .	80,000	0	0
2. Cost of 10 field-pieces . . .	4,140	4	6
3. Cost of 7219 iron balls . . .	7,974	14	9
TOTAL COST . . .	92,115	3	3

(*CI* 20, p 628, no 283).

Nov. 24. 1559. To Balaji Pandit (Nana Farnavis). Acknowledges the receipt of his letter accompanying a present of cloths through Lala Sewak Ram. Says that his lordship has already sent a reply to his letter through Mr Malet and hopes that the said gentleman will deliver it to him. (*CI* 20, p 629, no 284 ; *TI* 35, p 187, no 254 ; *AR* 5, p 50).

Nov. 24. 1560. To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Says that it has been customary with his lordship to write complimentary letters to the Begams (Sadrun-Nisa Begam and Bahu Begam), but of late he could not keep up the correspondence with them. Wishes to renew the same and encloses complimentary letters to be transmitted to them. Hopes the Begams will be kind enough to favour him with their replies. (*CI* 20, p 629, no 285 ; *TI* 35, pp 187-8, no 256 ; *AR* 5, p 56).

Nov. 24. 1561. To Sadrun-Nisa Begam and Bahu Begam. Is sorry not to have received any letters from them for a long time. Says that his lordship too could not keep up the corres-

¹ Bahiro Nath in the vol. of copies. Bahiropanth Mehendale was the son of Janncha Dada, Governor of Poona. He was in the confidence of Nana Farnavis and acted for some years as the channel of communication between Mr Malet and the Poona Durbar.

pondence with them due to pressure of work and want of time. Professes sincere friendship and attachment to them and hopes that they will favour him with letters of welcome frequently. (*CI* 20, p 630, no 286 ; *TI* 35, p 188, no 257 ; *AR* 5, p 56).

Nov. 24. 1562. To the Peshwa. To the same effect as no 1559 above. (*CI* 20, pp 630-1, no 287 ; *TI* 35, p 187, no 255 ; *AR* 5, p 51).

Nov. 25. 1563. From Saiyid Muhammad Ali and Hasan Ali¹. Inform the Governor-General of their safe arrival at Murshidabad. (*OR* 284).

Nov. 25. 1564. From Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Is highly thankful for his lordship's order to Mr Pott directing him to supply annually one thousand maunds of saltpetre to the Nizamat. Acknowledges the receipt of one thousand maunds of saltpetre sent by Mr Pott from Patna. (*OR* 285 ; *AR* 5, p 20).

Nov. 25. 1565. From Pratap Singh, Raja of Jaipur. His lordship will have received the letter which was sent to him through Rao Dhan Singh and the Rao will have also explained to him all the particulars verbally. As his lordship is gifted with wisdom and prudence he desires very much to consult his opinion in every important matter. His lordship will have learnt from the newspaper all about the calamities which have befallen this quarter. Rai Ram Singh has also written to his lordship the full particulars relating to them. Has now learnt from the reports of his officials that the *mutasaddis* of the Nawab Vazir have taken possession of some houses that were inherited by the Raja. Requests his lordship to write to the Nawab Vazir asking him to relinquish them. (*OR* 286 ; *AR* 5, p 16).

Nov. 25. 1566. From Rajaram Pandit. Has received his lordship's letter saying that Moti Ram, the *naib* of Pataspur had carried away some inhabitants of the Company's

¹ Sons of Nawab Sher Jang, *Daroghas* of the Benares Mint.

1789

territories and was keeping them confined. His lordship therefore desired the writer to get them released even as the English had delivered up the fugitives from the Maratha state, who had taken shelter in Ganjam. Says in reply that he has just issued peremptory orders for the release of the men confined by Moti Ram and requests that his lordship will similarly direct the Company's officers to deliver up those persons who have fled from Pataspur to take refuge in Midnapore. (*OR* 287; *AR* 5, p 28).

Nov. 26. 1567. *Dastak* granted to Baijnath Shankar Rao who is going from Calcutta to Kalpi by river. He has with him one boat, ten men and a piece of *banat*¹ sent for by Bala Rao (*Sardar* of Kalpi). (*CI* 20, p 631, no 288).

Nov. 26. 1568. *Dastak* granted for the transport of cannon, muskets and iron balls which are being carried from Calcutta to Lucknow for the Nawab Vazir. (The invoice is given in no 1572 below). (*CI* 20, p 631, no 289).

Nov. 27. 1569. To the Teshu Lama. Says that Purangir Gosain² who some time ago went to Tibet and then returned to India has again sought permission to go to 'that' country on his own account. Accordingly permission has been granted to him. Hopes that the Gosain on reaching there will wait upon the addressee and will

¹ H. broadcloth.

² Purangir Gosain, was a Saivite Sannyasi whom the Teshu Lama had employed as his envoy to Warren Hastings in 1773 to intercede for the Bhutanese against whom the British had sent a punitive expedition. Next year he accompanied Mr Bogle on his mission to Tibet and when Teshu Lama went to the court of the Emperor of China, Purangir Gosain went with him. From Peking he returned to Calcutta in 1781. He next accompanied the Turner Mission to the new Teshu Lama in 1783. After his return he settled down in 1785 as *mahant* at the Bhotbagan monastery in Howrah on the banks of the Ganges. The site of this monastery was granted by Mr Hastings at the request of the Teshu Lama and a Tibetan temple was built here and the whole establishment was assigned to Purangir who also built rest houses for the Tibetan traders who used regularly to visit the temple. The fame of the monastery treasures brought about Purangir's death, for in 1795 it was attacked by a band of dacoits who speared him to death.—*Howrah Gazetteer*.

1789

represent all the particulars about his lordship's sincere friendship for the Lama. Requests to be favoured with letters of welfare now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 631-2, no 290 ; *TI* 35, p 188, no 258 ; *AR* 5, p 54).

Nov. 29. 1570. *Intelligence* from the camp of Tipu Sultan. Intelligence has been received from the camp of Tipu Naik that his army is encamped in the suburbs of Coimbatore. Instructions to the Governor of the port of Pondicherry have been issued from France to unite with the Naik. So a detachment from the army of the Naik with one *surdar* and 500 sepoys has entered into Pondicherry. It is reported that a French *thana* will be established at Korial (Mangalore) instead of Pondicherry. The Naik wants the help of the French in order to chastise Ram Raja of Malavar. In the month of *Safar* Ali Riza Khan and Hafiz Faridud-Din Khan left the fort of Gooty¹ for Hyderabad. They wanted to cross the Kistna at the ghat of Gadwal². But in the meantime orders were sent to them by the Nizam asking them to cross at the ghat of Raichur and not to bring more than 200 soldiers with them. The Nizam also wrote to Mahabat Jang to afford them every facility in crossing the river. Dated 11 *Safar* 1204 A. H. 31 October 1789. (*OR* 288).

Nov. 30. 1571. *Dastak* granted to Sadasheo Acharj who is proceeding on his pilgrimage to Gaya. He has with him 1 *chaupala*, 2 horses and 25 followers. (*CI* 20, p 632, no 291).

Nov. 30. 1572. *Chalan*³ showing the particulars of cannon, iron balls, muskets and other requisites which are being supplied to the Nawab Vazir and transported on 23 boats from Fort William to Lucknow through Mir Haider Ali *jamadar*, a servant of Tafazzul Husain Khan.

¹ Town in Anantapur District, Madras, with historic hill fort

² Town in Raichur District, Hyderabad.

³ H. an invoice, a voucher, a pass, a document sent with goods, treasure, etc.

Cannon	10
Iron balls	7,219
Muskets	10,000

(CI 20, pp 632-6, no 292).

- Dec. 3. 1573. *Dastak* granted for the transport of 4 boxes containing mirror, which are being taken from Calcutta to Benares for Nawab Sa'adat Ali Khan by Ram Nath, *harkara*. (CI 20, p 637, no 293).
- Dec. 5. 1574. To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah. Saiyid Ghulam Muhammad Khan, who is in indifferent health, is proceeding to Murshidabad for a change of climate and will pay his respects to the Nawab. Requests that the Nawab may put him under the treatment of some good physician. (CI 20, p 637, no 294).
- Dec. 5. 1575. *Dastak* for four horses belonging to Saiyid Ghulam Muhammad Khan, which are being taken overland from Calcutta to Murshidabad. (CI 20, p 637, no 295).
- Dec. 5. 1576. *Dastak*. Be it known to the people and subjects and dependents of His Majesty the King of England and to all those whom it may concern that a ship named *Dodalay* laden with 600 tons of rice, etc., is proceeding from Bengal to Bencoolen¹ (Fort Marlbro³) and Bombay under the command of Lieut. Hiram Cox². Let it proceed uninterrupted and let no one offer any impediment to its crew or cargo. This *dastak* will remain in force for one year from

¹ The chief establishment possessed by the British East India Company on the island of Sumatra, until it was delivered up, with all their other settlements on that island, to the Dutch in 1825 A.D.—W. Hamilton : *East India Gazetteer*.

² Arrived in India as Cadet 14 September 1779. Ensign 18 September 1780. Lieutenant 29 May 1781. After resigning his service on 11 April 1785 he took to shipping. He commanded and owned the *Clive* in 1787 and was Captain of the *Charlotte* and *Dodalay* during 1789. Readmitted to the Bengal Army 29 October 1790. Lieutenant 3rd Bengal European Regiment in 1796. Captain 1796. Died Chittagong 2 August 1799, aged 39. The town of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, is named after him.—I. R. D. : *Public Department Press List* ; Hodson : *Officers of the Bengal Army*.

1789

the date of its issue. Issued over the signature of the Governor-General and under the seal of the Company. Dated Fort William, 5 December 1789. (*CI* 20, p 638, nos 296-7¹).

- Dec. 7. **1577.** *Dastak* granted to the ship named *Speke* which is sailing under the command of Capt. James Jackson², with a cargo of 450 tons of rice to Madras and Bombay. (*CI* 20, p 640, no 298).
- Dec. 11. **1578.** To Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Is glad to receive his letter accompanying a present of horses through Rao Dhan Singh and intimating the news of that quarter. Says in reply that though he learns the information about the events which take place in that part of the country from the newspapers and from Rai Ram Singh yet he is much pleased to find that the Maharaja in consideration of sincere friendship also communicates them to him. (*CI* 20, pp 640-1, no 301 ; *TI* 35, pp 188-9, no 259 ; *AR* 5, p 43).
- Dec. 11. **1579.** To Maharaja Bijai Singh. Complimentary reply to his letter accompanying a present of Nagaur³ bullocks, a sword of Jodhpur make and a faggot of arrows received through Rao Dhan Singh. (*CI* 20, pp 641-2, no 300 ; *TI* 35, p 189, no 260; *AR* 5, p 43).
- Dec. 11. **1580.** To Raja Manik Pal⁴, Chief of Karauli. Has received his friendly letter. Is glad to know that there subsists an intimate friendship between him and Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. Has also learnt further particulars from Rao Dhan Singh. Is glad to note that the Raja took the initiative in establishing friendship with the Com-

¹ No. 297 is the Marathi translation of no 296 which is in Persian.

² James Wilson, according to the vol. of copies; Jackson, according to *Public Department Press List*.

³ Historic town in Jodhpur State, Rajputana. The Nagaur District furnishes a fine breed of bullocks, famous throughout Northern India.

⁴ Son of Maharaja Tursam Pal. Succeeded his father in 1772. Rorji Sindhia invaded Karauli in his time and in the fight which ensued Rorji was killed. He died in 1804.—Drake Brockman : *Gazetteer of the Eastern Rajputana States*, p 320.

1789

pany. Hopes that their friendly relations will continue for ever and that the addressee will favour him with letters of health now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 642-3, no 301 ; *TI* 35, p 189, no 261 ; *AR* 5, p 49).

Dec. 12. **1581.** To Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah and Munni Begam. Has received their letters forwarding a petition from a number of Muslims and stating that several Muslim students of the Calcutta Madrasah were confined on account of the riot that broke out in Calcutta on 7 *Muharram* (28 September 1789) and requesting his lordship to consider their case and to release them. Says in reply that he could have no hesitation in acceding to their requests but he apprehends that the real cause for which the students were confined has not been explained to the Nawab and the Begam. Justice demands that they should be brought to trial and punished, if found guilty, or acquitted, if their guilt is not proved. (*CI* 20, pp 643-4, no 302 ; *TI* 35, pp 189-90, nos 862-3 ; *AR* 5, p 45).

Dec. 16. **1582.** To Nawab Mir Murtaza Khan¹, *alias* Mir Saidu. Complimentary reply. (*CI* 20, pp 644-5, no 303 ; *TI* 35, p 190, no 264 ; *AR* 5, p 49).

Dec. 21. **1583.** To Nawab Asafud-Daulah. Says that he has always been careful to see that the ryots of the Company do not enter into broils with the ryots of the Nawab residing on the confines of Benares and that he has patiently submitted to repeated encroachments and disputes, made by the Nawab's subjects in the districts of Mahul² and Sikandara, in the hope that the Nawab himself would adopt measures to stop such outrages. Has now learnt from Mr Duncan's letter about the daring and rebellious conduct of the inhabitants of those districts towards the

¹ Saiyid Murtaza Khan *alias* Mir Saidu, was the son of Nawab Miran, eldest son of Mir Jafar. He received a pension of Rs 3,000 a month from the *Nizamat*, and his mother Fazilatun-Nisa Begam and his stepmother, Saliha Begam, received Rs 1,000 each per month. Mir Saidu died on 14 January 1810.

² *Pargana* in Azamgarh District, United Provinces.

1789

people of the *parganas* of Ungli¹ and Mungra¹. As a well-wisher of the Nawab and as a custodian of the life and property of the Company's subjects it is incumbent on him to request the Nawab to adopt immediately proper measures to quell such disturbances and to punish the offenders adequately. In order to achieve this end it is necessary for the Nawab to depute to these places a force sufficiently strong to bring the rebel to their senses. It appears however from the letter of Mr Duncan that the force that can be spared at this moment by the Nawab for this purpose will be hardly adequate to effect the subjugation of the mischief mongers. If it is so, his lordship will be glad to offer the assistance of the Company's troops, should the Nawab think it proper to requisition it. (*CI* 20, pp 463-6, no 69 ; *TI* 35, pp 190-4, no 265 ; *AR* 5, p 56).

- Dec. 21. **1584.** To Haidar Beg Khan. To the same effect as the foregoing. (*CI* 20, p 467, no 70 ; *TI* 35, pp 194-5, no 266 ; *AR* 5, p 42).
- Dec. 23. **1585.** To Mirza Sulaiman Shikoh. Has received his two letters. In the first he has stated how Mr Johnstone and Amirud-Daulah (Nawab Haidar Beg Khan) paid their respects to him. In the other, the Mirza has intimated that on his return to Lucknow the Nawab Vazir paid a visit to him and performed the usual duties of allegiance and attachment. Is highly pleased to learn that they waited on the Mirza. Expresses his loyalty and attachment to the latter. Hopes to be honoured with letters of welfare now and then. (*CI* 20, pp 645-6, no 304 ; *TI* 35, p 195, no 267 ; *AR* 5, p 47).
- Dec. 23. **1586.** To Muhammad Ali Khan and Hasan Ali Khan, sons of Nawab Sher Jang. Acknowledges the receipt of their letter informing his lordship of their safe arrival at Murshidabad. (*CI* 20, p 646, no 305 ; *TI* 35, p 195, no 268 ; *AR* 5, p 54).
- Dec. 23. **1587.** To Nawab Ali Ibrahim Khan. Thanks him for his letter received through Mirza Ali Naqi Khan reporting

¹ *Pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces.

the news about King Timur Shah of Kabul. (*CI* 20, p 646, no 306 ; *TI* 35, p 196, no 269 ; *AR* 5, p 35).

Dec. 26. 1588. To Maharaja Raghuji Bhonsla. Thanks him for his congratulations on the recovery of His Majesty the King of England from his illness. Refers him to Bishambhar Pandit for particulars. Hopes for letters. (*CI* 20, pp 646-7, no 307 ; *TI* 35, p 196, no 270 ; *AR* 5, p 52).

Dec. 29. 1589. *Dastak* granted for three boats laden with 70 pieces of *banat*, 4 pieces of velvet, a piece of Deccan cloth, a small box of corals, 25 sacks of conch-shells, a small box of golden lace and 25 sacks of vermillion which are being taken for Ran Bahadur Sah, Gurkha Raja of Nepal, by Dinanath Upaddhaya from Calcutta to Nepal. (*CI* 20, pp 647-8, no 308).

Dec. 31. 1590. To the Nawab of Arcot. Has received his two letters, one through his lordship's brother, Commodore William Cornwallis and the other through Lieut. Cochrane. With regard to his request contained in his letters refers him to the reply¹ already sent to the Nawab on the subject. Hopes the Nawab has received it by this time. Assures him of his sincere friendship and attachment and requests frequent letters. (*CI* 20, pp 648-9, no 309 ; *TI* 35, pp 196-7, no 271 ; *AR* 5, p 56).

¹ *Vide* no 1417 above.

A List of Vakils of the different Chiefs and Notables of India with the
Governor-General at Calcutta.

Serial No.	Vakils	Constituents
1	'Abdu'r-Rahim Beg, Mirzā . . .	Prince Jahāndār Shāh.
2	Abu'l Qāsim Mūsavi Mir, <i>alias</i> Mir 'Alam	The Nizām.
3	'Ali Naqī Khān, Mirzā	Nawāb 'Ali Ibrāhīm Khān.
4	Aṭhar' Ali Khān	Raja Mahip Narayan Singh.
5	Badru'd-Din Khān, Saiyid . . .	Shahāmat 'Ali Khān.
6	Bāsharāt Khān	Alif Khān.
7	Beniram Pandit	{ Mudhoji Bhonsla. Raghuji Bhonsla.
8	Bhagwant Rao	{ Bhao Bakhshi. Mahadaji Sindhia.
9	Bindraban, Babu	Raja Tej Chand.
10	Bishambhar Pandit	{ Mudhoji Bhonsla. Raghuji Bhonsla.
11	Chaman Lal, Lala	The Peshwa.
12	Damri Lal, Lala	Rai Banwari Lal.
13	Daryao Singh, Lala	Bhup Narayan Singh.
14	Debi Dat, Lala	Tegh 'Ali Khān.
15	Deokishan Pandit	Raja Uttam Chand.
16	Dharindhar Upaddhaya	Raja Kirtibum.
17	Dinanath Upaddhaya	Raja of Nepal.
18	Fazl 'Ali Khān	Ismā'il Beg Khān.
19	Fazl 'Ali Shaikh	Nawāb Asafu'd-Daulah.
20	Ganga Parshad	Raja Ram Kishan.
21	Ganga Parshad, Lala	Raja Mahip Narayan Singh.
22	Ganga Parshad, Ray	Ishwar Chand.
23	Ghasi Ram	Prasanna Chand.
24	Gobind Ram, Raja	Nawāb Asafu'd-Daulah.
25	Gokul Chand Chaube	Nawāb Sa'adat 'Ali Khān.
26	Gopal Chand Chaube	Babu Rup Singh.
27	Hikmat Maāb Khān, Saiyid . . .	Nawāb Muḥammad Rīzā Khān.
28	Jai Ram, Babu	Raghuji Sindhia.
29	Janki Ram	Raja of Cooch Behar.

Serial No.	Vakils	Constituents
30	Kamālu'd-Din Husain <u>Khān</u> , Mir	Nawāb Mubāraku'd-Daulah.
31	Lutf 'Ali, Mirzā	Murādu'd-Daulah.
32	Mazhar 'Ali <u>Khān</u> , Mir	Qutlaq Sultan Begam.
33	Moti Lal, Lala	Nawāb Faizu'llah <u>Khān</u> .
34	Muhammad Rajab	Teshu Lama.
35	Muhammad Shikab, Shaikh	'Umdatun-Nisā Bahū Begam.
36	Muhammad Wali	Teshu Lama.
37	Mukant Ram	Rup Narayan Deo.
38	Nasir Muhammad <u>Khān</u>	Munni Begam.
39	Nasru'llah, Saiyid	Nawāb 'Ali'Azim <u>Khān</u> .
40	Ninu Ray	Zamindar of Nadia.
41	Putni Mal, Munshi	Babu Ausan Singh.
42	Ram Singh, Rai	Raja of Jaipur.
43	Raushan Ray, Lala	Nawāb Faizu'llah <u>Khān</u> .
44	Sadanand Ray	Raja of Dinajpur.
45	Saiyid Muhammad <i>alias</i> 'Allāmi Shāhib	Mubāraku'd-Daulah of Masuli- patam.
46	Sarabjit Singh, Babu	Raja Mahip Narayan Singh.
47	Sardar Singh, Lala	Raja Banwari Lal.
48	Sardar Singh, Lala	Raja Madho Singh.
49	Sewak Ram, Lala	The Peshwa.
50	Shambhu Chand, Babu	Mahanand.
51	Shankar Rao	Sivaji Vithal Rao.
52	Sher 'Ali, Saiyid	Babu Ausan Singh.
53	Sobha Chand	Mir Muhammad Bāqir <u>Khān</u> .
54	Shrichand Ghosh	Khagendra Narayan Nazir Deo.
55	Sristidhar	Raja of Cooch Behar.
56	Swarup Ram, Munshi	Fateh Singh.
57	Tafazzul-Husain <u>Khān</u>	Nawāb Asafu'd-Daulah.
58	Tulja Ram	Mahābat Jang.
59	Wajihu'llah, Munshi	Nawāb Diler Himmat <u>Khān</u> .

INDEX

A.=Arabic ; Beng.=Bengali ; H.=Hindi ; Mar.=Marathi ; P.=Persian ;
S.=Sanskrit ; T.=Turki.

References are to letters and *not* pages.

- 'Abbās Qulī Khān, son of Nawab Muru'd-Daulah, 173, 262, 1047
requests restoration of *jāgir*, 957
- 'Abdul 'Alī Khān, Saiyid, 1050
- 'Abdullah, Ḥakīm, 470
- 'Abdullah Khān Khatak, 322
- 'Abdullah Mukarram Shāh, King of Keda, 117
- 'Abdul Latīf Khān, Nawab, Vazir of Timūr Shāh, 321, 798
- 'Abdur Raḥīm Beg, Mirzā, *vikil* of Prince Jahāndār Shāh, 22, 573; deputed to Calcutta, 478-9; returns to Benares, 610, 684
- 'Abdush Shakūr, his case against Bhawani Singh, 714
- Abu'l Faṭḥ Khān, *Shamsu'd-Daulah*, *Shamsu'l-Mulk*, *Shamsu'l-Umarā*, *Tegh Jang*, 59, 748, 1028, 1450; biographical note in vol. VII
- Abu'l Qāsim Mūsavī, Mīr, better known as Mīr 'Alam, *vikil* of the Nizām, 949, 968, 1018, 1057, 1096, 1185, 1192, 1227, 1272, 1361, 1426, 1433-4; biographical note, 833; deputed to Calcutta, 896, 914, 966, 993-4, 1093, 1273, 1279; reaches Ganjam, 1031, reaches Balasore, 1067; adjusts accounts between the Nizām and the Company, 1279; grants receipt for amount paid by Company, 1280; papers relating to his negotiations, 1281; leaves Calcutta, 1282; reaches Murshidabad, 1339; leaves for Benares, 1359; arrives at Benares, 1512, 1551; requests money for travelling expenses, 1513
- Abwāb* (A. unauthorised taxes or cesses; extra charges levied by revenue officers), 1249
- Abyssinians, 1450
- Achal Das, *kucha*, 763
- Achal Singh, 145
- Achin, small state in north-western part of Sumatra, 20
- , King of, *see*
- 'Alāu'd Dīn Muḥammad Shāh
- '*Adālat* (P. Court of law), 129, 311, 431
- Albhuṭ Singh, son of Ranjit Mal, Raja of Bhatgaon, requests restoration of his *raj*, 332
- Adheli* (H. half a silver rupee or eight annas), 251
- Adoni, town in Bellary District, Madras, 249*n*
- Afghanistan, 1451
- Afrāsīāb Khān, Nawab, 1169
- Afzal 'Alī, his *jāgir*, 14
- Afzal Bagh, garden near Motijhil in Murshidabad town, 1195
- Agamahāl, 243*n*
- Āghā Muḥammad, sailor, complaint against, 1522
- Aghin* (H. the eighth Hindu solar month corresponding to Nov.-Dec.), 158, 903
- Agra (also called Akbarabad) 112, 135, 233, *passim*; Jahāndār Shāh proceeding to, 152; captured by Marathas, 516

- , fort of, 234
- Ahalya Bai, request- exemption for certain pilgrims, 271; her pilgrimage, 1302, 1432, 1472
- Ahlikar (P. agent), 763
- Ahmad 'Alī Khān, Maulavi Saiyid, *Qazāl-Qazāl*, 207*n*, 234, 622, 850, 1152, 1182, 1278, 1293, 1430, 1494
- , courtier of Shāh 'Ālam, 445, 765, 795
- , *Amil* of Champaran, 6
- , Saiyid, brother of Saiyid 'Alī Khān, 313, 1284, 1331; his marriage, 875, 1014-15, 1033, 1233, 1245, 1259-60, 1283
- , Nawab, Saiyid, son of Nawab Ihtirām'u'd-Daulah, 12, 1369; sends address in favour of Mr. Hastings, 784
- Ahmad Husain, Shaikh, 305, 415, 974
- Ahmad Khān Bangash, Nawab of Farrukhabad (1759-71 A. D.), 60, 491
- Ahmadnagar, city and district in Bombay, 707
- Ahmad Shāh, Mughal Emperor (1748-54), 617, 628, 693
- Ahmad Shāh Durrānī (Abdālī), King of Afghanistan, (1747-73), 986
- 'Ain u'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān, *nāib* of Nawab Muḥammad Rīzā Khān, 446
- 'Ainu'd-Dīn Shiqdār, 981
- Ajaib Singh, Babu, *nāib* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh, 340
- Ajir (A. a hired servant or labourer, a bondsman, a bondslave; one who has entered into an engagement for a stipulated sum to serve another for a specific term), 1326, 1379
- Ajodhya, city in Fyzabad District United Provinces, 423*n*
- Akbarabad, name given by Emperor Akbar to Agra, q.v.
- Akbar 'Alī Khān, Nawab Saiyid, maternal uncle of Prince Jahāndār Shāh, 255, 275, 502, 510, 512, 529, 568, 590, 595, 611, 633-4, 643, 658, 686, 703, 779, 739-1, 878, 935, 982, 1243; deputed to Lucknow, 295; reports Prince Jahandār Shāh's death, 471; appointed superintendent of Qutlaq Sultān Begam's household, 473; condoled on the death of Jahāndār; Shāh, 476; deserts Qutlaq Sultān, 728; his resignation, 752, 776, his *tanḫwāh*, 755, 777; his conduct 816, 835, 876, 924-5, 991
- Akbarnagar, old name of Rajmahal, q.v.
- Akbar Shāh, Mirzā, son and successor of Shāh 'Ālam, 255, 524, 795, 925, 1120, 1262; confined, 617; crowned, 831; arrives in Maratha camp, 1028
- Akbar, the Great (1556-1605 A. D.), 243*n*
- 'Ālamgīr II, Mughal Emperor (1754-9 A.D.), 938
- Alapsingh, *pargana* in Mymensingh Dist., Bengal, 208
- 'Alī u'd-Dīn Muḥammad Shāh, King of Achin, 20
- 'Alāu'l-Mulk, 1405
- 'Alī Azīm Khān, *faujdar* of Ghazipur, requests restoration of his zamindari, 467*n*, 1210
- , *vakil* of, see Nasrullah, Saiyid
- 'Alī Bahādur, note, 233*n*; fights Raja Bijai Singh, 234, 795; sent to reinforce Sindhia, 459; arrives at Dhar 561; secures Ghulām Qādir, 921;

Ghulām Qādir's negotiations with, 925
 Alī Bakhsh, Mīr, preceptor to Prince Muazzam Bakht, his *jāgīr*, 998
 Alif Khān, Zamindar of *pargana* Atia, in Bengal, 208 ; biographical note, 208*n*
 ———, son of Sulaimān Beg Khān, 255
 Aligarh (also known as Koil), district, *tahsīl* and city in United Provinces, 234, 255 ; Ghulām Qādir at, 381
 ———, fort of, 255, 1164, captured by Ghulām Qādir, 233
 'Alī Ibrāhīm Khān, Nawab, Chief Judicial Magistrate of Benares, 7, 44, 53, 81, 233-4, 286-8, 312, 334, 370, 395, 438, 448, 461, 470, 473, 480, 501, 516, 540, 571, 605, 624, 631, 734, 766, 773, 787-8, 797, 824, 906, 918, 922, 940, 982, 1107, 1116, 1370, 1520, 1548, 1587 ; sends newspapers, 254, 274 ; leaves for Jaunpur, 285 ; interviews Mr Duncan there, 319 ; receives present from Raja of Nepal, 449 ; asked to assist Lala Dhan Singh, 518 ; sends original will of Jahāndār Shāh, 551 ; enjoined by Jahāndār Shāh not to send his family to Delhi, 552 ; his sympathetic conduct towards Qutlaq Sultān, 924 ; his *nazr* declined, 965 ; relations and dependants of, 1003 ; his son's marriage, 1253, 1314 ; offers congratulations on recovery of King George III, 1202, 1423 ; his correspondence with Rāi Bahadur Sāh, 1356 ; encourages visitors to Benares from Nepal, 1363 ; sends *nazr*, 1427 ; reports celebrations of King George III's recovery, 1455, 1493 ; offers congratulations on Commodore Cornwallis's arrival, 1542

—————, *vrkil* of, see 'Alī Naqī Khān
 'Alī Mardān Khān, Nawab, 754 ; biographical note, 754*n*
 'Alī Muḥammad Khān, 756 ; note, 756*n*
 'Alī Naqī Khān, Mirzā, *vrkil* of Nawab 'Alī Ibrāhīm Khān, 7, 285, 448, 551, 1253-4, 1356, 1366, 1370, 1427-8, 1587 ; goes to Murshidabad, 1292
 'Alī Rājā Bibī, Ruler of Cannanore, seeks protection against Tipu, 853 ; her treaty with Gen. Macleod, 960 ; complains against Aghā Muḥammad, 1522
 'Alī Rizā Khān, 1570
 'Alī Vardī Khān, Nawab Nāzim of Bengal (1740-56 A. D.), 108*n*, 145, 171, 402, 1459
 'Alī Vardī Khān, widow of, imprisoned by Nawab Miran, 1327
 Allahabad (also called Prayag), town and district in United Provinces, 20*n*, 61-4, *passim*
 Allah Yār Beg Khān, 255 ; interviews Hiṇmat Bahādur and Deccan chiefs, 763
 'Allāmi Sāhib, see Saiyid Muḥammad Almās 'Alī Khān, 598
 Almasganj, Sulaimān Shikoh arrives at, 1150-1, 1178
Altamghā (T. a grant of land under the royal seal in perpetuity ; royal insignia, diploma), 957, 1023
 Alwar, State in Rajputana, 244
 'Amūlī (P. ministerial officers, workers), 14, 407, 569
Amānat (P. office of an *amīn*), 36
Amānat Kachahrī (H. court of *amīn*), 36
Amīnī (P. a term applied especially to the collection of revenue direct from cultivators by officers of

- Government upon removal or suspension of an intermediate claimant or zamindar), 27
- Amarapura, 41*n*
- '*Amāri* (A. litter or seat with a canopy to ride on elephant), 748
- Amarnath, *Purohit*, his pilgrimage, 331 ; exemption from Gaya duties granted to, 359-60
- Amar Singh Jadav, Raja, requests exemption from pilgrim tax, 1159 ; his pilgrimage, 1176, 1187, 1317
- Ambaji Ingliā, Sindhia's officer 244
- Amboa (also called Sinpahari) *maḥāl*, Hooghly District, Bengal, 204, 238
- '*Āmil* (A. a collector of revenue), 6, 36, 340
- Amin* (A. trustee, revenue officer appointed to take charge of estate or for particular purposes of local investigation or arrangement), 142, 225, 273
- Aminah *Khānam*, daughter of Nawab Mirzā Iraj *Khān* and sister of 'Umdatun-Nisā Bahū Begam, her allowance, 481
- Amīnu'l-Mulk* (A. trustee of the country), title of Jonathan Duncan, q.v.
- Amir *Khān*, Governor of Kabul, 439*n*
- Anūru'd-Daulah* (A. chief of the empire), title of Haidar Beg *Khān*, q.v.
- Amīru'l-Umarā* (A. chief of the chiefs), title of Ghulām Qādir *Khān*, q.v.
- Amou, *see* Aumont, J. Jean Baptiste
- Amraoti, district and town in Berar, 106
- Amrit Singh, Raja, widow of, requests rejection of Sukhpat Ray's claim, 513
- Amroha, town and *taḥṣīl* in Moradabad district, United Provinces, 1119, 1122, 1164
- Amsaḥu'd-Dīn, Maulavi, requests restoration of certain grants, 171
- Anand Chand, son of Shambhu Chand, Raja of Nadia, 639
- Anandi Ram, 208
- Anandram Chaudhri, 790
- Anand Rao, agent of Mahadaji Sindhia, surrenders Aligarh fort, 234
- Anant Ram, Rao, brother of Raja Gobind Ram, 256-7, 578, 581 ; seeks employment, 282
- Andamans, the, group of islands in the Bay of Bengal, 20*n*
- Angdaphorang, in Bhutan, note, 1393*n*
- Anguri Bagh, at Delhi, 763*n*
- Ankura, *pargana* in Balasore district, Orissa, 920
- Anupshahr, *taḥṣīl* and town in Bulandshahr district, United Provinces, 590
- Anwar Shahid, *Khawāja*, note, 171*n*
- Appa (Aba) Raghunath Chitnavis, a Brahmin officer in Sindhia's service, 600, 930
- Arakan, District in Lower Burma, 41*n*
- Archha, *pargana* in Gaya District, Bihar, 15
- Arcot, town and district in Madras, 458
- Arcot, Nawab of, *see* Muḥammad 'Alī *Khān*
- Arjunji Nathji Tewari, banker 390
- Arjun Singh, biographical note, 571*n*
- Arnot, grain merchant, 1221 ; complaint against, 926 ; recalled from Oudh, 934 ; permitted to stay on there, 1224

Arz̄begī (P. an officer who presents and reads letters and representations to a king or great personage ; an usher), 249*n*

Arz̄dāsh̄t (P. a written petition ; a memorial), 1119

Arz̄ī (P. petition), 97, 115

Asad 'Alī Khān, nominated to the *subadārī* of Kotah, 900

Asad Burj, tower on south-eastern corner of Red Fort, 617, 764, 765

Asadu'd-Daulah (A. lion of the state), title of Saiyid Khalilullah Khān, a.v.

Asaduz-Zamān Khān, son of Badiu'z-Zamān Khān, Zamindar of Birbhum, 813 ; biographical note, 740*n*

—————, widow of, requests restoration of her property, 740

Āsafu'd-Daulah, Nawab Vazir of Oudh (1775-97 A. D.), 1, 2, *passim* ; commercial treaty with, 86, 88, 499, 549 ; his subsidy to Company, 178, 1064-5 ; sends address in favour of Hastings, 222, 585 ; not inclined to fix allowance for Jahāndār Shāh, 242 ; sends fruits, 301, 314, 1004, 1099, 1109, 1140 ; summoned by the King at Garhmuktesar, 330 ; advised to refuse King's invitation, 348 ; appoints Tafazzul Husain Khān his *vakīl* at Calcutta, 364 596 ; receives *khlī'at* from King, 425 ; his inability to raise troops for the King, 426-7 ; sends *nazr* to King, 429 ; receives cloths from King, 430 ; goes to Fyzabad, 532, 1183 ; to provide Qutlaq Sultān Begam with minimum expenses, 545, 618 ; his plan for collecting duties at Farrukhabad, 597 ; presented with daggers, 646, 1024, receives mangoes from Malda, 775,

and Mr Arnot, 926, 1221, 1224 ; and Timūr Shāh, 985 ; asked to send back Sital Das, 1056, 1170, 1342, 1391 ; declines Sulaimān Shikoh's visit, 1122, 1151 ; his disinclination to hand over fugitives, 1171 ; cannon for, 1237, 1335 ; his *nazr* declined, 1311, 1397 ; informed of recovery of George III, 1320 ; animals for, 1336 ; asks services of Col. Mordaunt, 1337, 1364 ; offers rewards to Dr Willis, 1343 ; requests muskets, 1414, 1568 ; muskets, cannon and shots supplied to, 1491, 1524, 1558, 1572 ; Company's sepoys treated roughly in his territory, 1482, 1531 ; *dandān-i-māhi* for, 1511 ; offers congratulation on arrival of Commodore Cornwallis, 1514

Āsafu'd-Daulah, grandmother of, *see* Sadrun-Nisā Begam

—————, mother of, *see* Bahū Begam

Āsafu'd-Daulah, *vakīl* of, *see* Tafazzul Husain Khān

Asarī (H. 3rd Hindu solar month corresponding to Jun-Jul), 505

Ashraf 'Alī Khān, Nawab, son of Nawab Jā'far 'Alī Khān, 1247

Ashrafi (P. a gold coin, a gold mohur), 16, 255

Ashrafu'n-Nisā Begam, her *tankhūwāh*, 1222

Asin (H. 6th Hindu solar month corresponding to Sep-Oct), 772, 1525

Asman Singh, Babu, 441

Asū 'Alī Khān, claim of 'Umdatu'n-Nisā Begam against, 335

Atagada, estate in Ganjam District Madras, 1419

Athaganwan, *pargana* in Benares

- District, United Provinces, 441
- Aṭhar 'Alī Khān, *wakil* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh, his resignation, 1061, 1082
- Atia, subdivision, *pargana* and village in Mymensingh District, Bengal, 208
- Atma Ram, Lala, 891
- Attock, town and district in the Punjab, 894; note, 894*n*
- Aukeherah (official denomination of the Zamindar of Nadia), *pargana* in Nadia district, Bengal, 544; *see also* Nadia, 1204
- Aumont, Joseph Jean Baptiste, deputed by Nizām to purchase muskets, 59; fails to purchase them, 248; returns to Hyderabad, 458
- Aurang (P. place where goods are manufactured), 603
- Aurangabad, city in Hyderabad State, 303, 459, 748, 1450; Marathas demand *chauth* of, 249
- Aurory (Ahraura), *pargana* in Mirzapur District, United Provinces, 979
- Ausan Singh, Babu, 232, 651, 1023, 1384; deposes Patni Mal to Calcutta, 435; sends *nazr*, 832; appoints Saiyid Sher 'Alī his *wakil*, 1324; offers congratulations on recovery of King George III, 1349; death of his wife, 1375; condoled, 1422; his dispute with Ganesh Rao, 1546
- , *wakil* of, *see* Sher 'Alī Saiyid and Patni Mal
- Ava, old capital of Upper Burma 41*n*
- Ā'zamū'l-Umarā, Chief Minister of Nawab Nizām 'Alī Khān, *see* Mushīru'l-Mulk
- Azhar 'Alī Khān, 434
- Azimabad, old name of Patna, q. v.
- Babar 'Alī Khān *Nāṣiru'l-Mulk* 'Azdu'd-Daulah, Babar Jang, Diler Jang eldest son of Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, 135, 258, 294; his *nazr* declined, 1396; biographical note in. vol. VII
- Babbū Begam, mother of Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, 71, 156, 169, 300, 636, 659, 838, 875, 1060, 1408; marriage of her grand daughter, 887, 985; condoled on the death of her granddaughter, 1173; her *nazr* declined, 1311
- Babu Rao Farnavis, note, 1107*n*
- Bachhraj, Raja, 18, 55, 130, 139, 224, 277, 318, 485, 922, 936, 1307, 1360; his bills refused, 198; his *nazr* declined, 965
- , Guru of, his pilgrimage, 1481
- , *gumashta* of, *see* Shambhu-nath
- Backergunge, town in Backergunge District, Eastern Bengal, note, 981*n*
- Badal Beg Khān, note, 764*n*; interviews Himmat Bahadur and Deccan Chiefs, 763
- Badami, hill fort Bijapur District, Bombay, 458
- Badru'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān, Saiyid, *wakil* of Shahāmat 'Alī Khān, 383-4; transfers stipend to sons, 383
- Bagda, *pargana* in Manbhum District, Bengal, 820
- Baghel Singh, 225
- Bahādur 'Alī Khān, Saiyid, son of Saiyid Badru'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān, 383, 764
- Bahādur Beg, Mirzā, 369
- Bahadurgarh, town in Rohtak District, Punjab, 19 miles west of Delhi, 445
- Bahādur Khān, Nizām's envoy to

INDEX

- Tīpū, 249, 896 ; audience with
 Tīpū, 251
 Bahadurpur, *pargana* in Malda Dis-
 trict, 653
 Bahadur Sah, uncle and regent of
 Maharaja Ran Bahadur Sah, 7, 448,
 450, 1366, exchange of presents with
 'Alī Ibrāhīm Khān, 1356 ; receives
 presents, 1442
 Bahadur Singh, Chief of Jhalawar,
 presents *nazr* to King, 255
 —————, *Diwan* of Mr Doug-
 las, Collector of Midnapore, 565
 Bahādūr Zamān Khān, Zamindar of
 Birbhum, biographical note, 32*n* ;
 his death, 740, 811, 813
 Bahangī (H. a stick or pole with
 slings at both ends for carrying bas-
 kets, boxes etc., on the shoulder),
 1481
 Bahāwal Khān, II, Nawab, Ruler of
 Bahawalpur State (1772-1809),
 Timūr Shāh's campaign against,
 1107, 1548
 Bahiropant Mehendale, son of Jan-
 noba Dada, note, 1557*n*
 Bahla (P. privy purse), 544
 Bahli (H. a small two-wheeled ve-
 hicle without spring, drawn by two
 oxen), 113, 981
 Bahraich, town and district in United
 Provinces, 1183 ; Nawab Vazir at,
 532
 Bahrām Jang, Nawab, son of Nawab
 Muḥammad Riṣā Khān, 439 ; his
 stipend, 416, 1252 ; biographical
 note, 416*n*
 Bahū Begam, mother of Nawab
 Āṣafu'd-Daulah, biographical note,
 2*n*
 Baidyanath, site of temples in Deogarh,
 Santal Parganas, Bihar, 1027
 Baijnath, son of Raja Ramnath of
 Dinajpur, 1208*n*
 Baijnath Shankar Rao, *dostak* grant.
 ————, ed to, 1567
 Baikunthpur, estate in Rongpur Dis-
 trict, Bengal, 369
 —————, Zamindar of, *see*
 Darap Deo, Raikat
 —————, *vakil* of, 664
 —————, *gumāshta* of, *see*
 Kishan Kinker
 Bāīn (H. a large well), 763
 Bairāgī (H. one who subdues passions
 and worldly temptations, a Hindu
 religious mendicant particularly one
 attached to the worship of Vishnu),
 142
 Bairam Khān, Commander of Shāh
 'Ālam's artillery, 1363
 Baisākh (H. 1st Hindu solar month
 corresponding to Apr-May), 365
 726
 Bakhshi (P. paymaster in Muhammad-
 an armies ; general, Commander-in-
 Chief, an officer who kept an account
 of all disbursements connected with
 military tenures), 63, 175
 Balaghat, Carnatic, 1272
 Balaji Gobind Rao, *Sardār* of Kalpi,
 note, 61*n*, 177, 935, 952-3, 1030,
 1054, 1471, 1500, 1567 ; his pil-
 grimage, 61-2, 102-4, 719, 727, 930,
 997 ; requests restoration of Bhiga
 Ram's *jāgīr*, 979 ; requests allowance
 to Rao Ganesh Rao, 1023 ; deposes
 Shankar Rao to Calcutta, 1472
 Balaji Janardan, personal name of
 Nana Farnavis, q.v.
 Balaji Pandit, *see* Nana Farnavis
 Balarampur, the ancestral seat of
 Nazir Deo, 12 miles from Cooch
 Behar city, 179
 Balasore, town and district in Orissa,
 89, 456 ; salt manufactured at,

- 749
 ———, merchants of, 1012
 Ballabgarh, *tahsīl* and town in Gurgaon district, Punjab, 445
 Ballabh Singh, 671
 Ballia, *pargana* in Ballia District, United Provinces, 441, 616
 Ballia Basundri, *pargana* in Burdwan, 171
 Balramgarhi Ghat, 9 miles east of Balasore, 1912
 Balrampur, town and estate in Gonda District, United Provinces, 200, 569, 723
 Balwant Singh, Raja of Benares, note, 123*n*, 467, 979, 1023 ; his daughter, 123
Bānāt (H. broad cloth), 1567, 158
Band-obast (P. settlement of revenue to be paid by zamindar, renter or farmer to government), 13, 225, 311
 Baneshwar Mandal, 323
 Bangalore, Tipū at, 782 ; note, 782*n*
Banjirā (H. grain and cattle merchants who move about to different markets), 1023, note, 1023*n*
 Banne Singh, *Kumelān*, 255
 Banpur, *thana* in Puri, Orissa, 111
 Banwari Lal Rai, nephew of Raja Dhiraj Narayan, 205, 1297
 ———, *vakil* of, *see* Damri Lal, Lala ; Sardar Singh, Lala
 Baours, Mons., biographical note, 763*n*, 764
 Bapuji Janardan, 561
 Bāqir 'Alī *Khān*, Mīr, punished by Tipū, 968
 Bāqir *Khān* Nawazi, goes to Kandahar, 322
 Barahati, village in Balasore District, note, 328*n*
 Barapara, *pargana* in Sylhet District, Khedas at, 389
Bardāsht (P. stores, supplies ; furnishing porters, and provisions to government officers and troops), 26, 36
 Bareilly, town and district in the United Provinces, Sulaimān Shikohat, 1119, 1121, 1123
 Barhwal, *pargana* in Benares, United Provinces, 441
 Barikandi (Barikaran), *pargana* in Tippera District, Eastern Bengal, 931
Barqinlāz (P. matchlock man, a messenger of the court, a guard), 179, 208, 629
 Barrackpore, town and subdivision in Twenty-four Parganas District, Bengal, note, 1074*n*, 1144
 Barsathi, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
 Barton, William, biographical note, 831*n*
 Basālat Jang, Nawab, brother of Nawab Nizām 'Alī *Khān*, 59, 807, 949, 1273 ; his death, 1185, 1281 (5, 6, 10)
 Basant Ram, Raja, 867, 944, 1453, 1496
 Bishārat *Khān*, *vakil* of Alif *Khān*, 203
 Bathurst, R., Collector of Tirhut, 974 ; biographical note in vol. VII
Baṭṭa (H. discount), 224, note, 311*n* ; abolition of, 851, 1053
 Bayawar, 782
Ba'ze Zamīn (P. land exempted from assessment. Any land paying no revenue or a light quit-rent only, to the Government, held under different tenures), 726, 820
 Becher, John, biographical note, 175*n*

Bedār Bakht, Prince Mirzā, son of Aḥmad Shāh, 617*n.*, 925; ascends the throne of Delhi, 617, 628, 631, 680, 693, 795

Begam Ganj, in Farrukhabad, 60, 175

Begam Samrū, *see* Zebu'n-Nisā Begam

Benares (also called Kāshī), town and district in United Provinces, 7, 8, 9, *passim*; residence of the Prince Jahāndār Shāh, inadvisable at, 378; the prince's death, 470; measures to encourage traffic from Nepal, 1356, 1366; celebrations of King George III's recovery at, 1455; court of appeal established at, 480

—————, inhabitants of, send addresses regarding the administration of Mr Hastings, 582

—————, Raja of, *see* Mahip Narayan Singh

—————, Resident at, *see* Grant, James; Duncan, Jonathan Bencoolen, *see* Fort Marlbro'

Bengal, 20, 119, 222, 378

Beni Das Huzuri, *Diwān* of Raja Dhokal Singh, biographical note, 51*n.*; his engagement with Arjun Singh, 571

Beni Madho, *ghat* of, at Benares, illuminations at, 1455, 1493

Beniram Pandit, *vakil* of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla and Raghuji Bhonsla, 47, 48, 63, 100, 101, 160, 190, 195, 197, 229, 230-1, 297, 397, 525, 558-9, 630, 749, 784, 852, 920, 950, 1212, 1359, 1426; condoled on death of Mudhoji Bhonsla, 649; his son's death, 907, 929, 949, 961, 975, 1134, 1243; requests guard of *tilangas*, 1452; collection of his *jāgīr*, 1547

Benod Narayan, *Chaudhri* of *pargana*

Lashkarpur, complains against Mr Dawson, 1256

Beopāri (H. merchant, dealer, trader), 124-5

Berar, province lying between the Central Provinces and Hyderabad State, 1124

Berhampore, town in Murshidabad District, Bengal, 72, 135, 1232, 1245

Bettiah, subdivision in Champaran district, Bihar, 5*n.*

Bhādon (H. 5th Hindu solar month corresponding to Aug-Sep), 676, 697, 720, 1525

Bhagalpur, town and district in Bihar, 519, 521

—————, inhabitants of, their addresses in favour of Hastings, 801

Bhagwanpur, in Murshidabad, 125

Bhagwant Narayan, brother of Khagendra Narayan, Nazir Dec, 200

Bhagwant Rao, *vakil* of Bhao Bakhshi and Mahadaji Sindhia, 61, 90, 147, 531, 600, 650, 670, 903, 930, 932, 979, 997, 1023, 1031, 1058, 1143-9, 1183, 1546; goes back to Calcutta, 121; his family, 166

Bhainsa Deorain, taluk in Guzara *pargana*, District Jannpur, United Provinces, 441

Bhaira Chand, Raja, 790

Bhao Bakhshi, *see* Sadasheo Rao Malhar

Bharū (H. an allowance, made to the Government revenue officers in the provinces of Bareilly and Benares, to cover the cost of remitting the collections to the Government treasury), 26, 36

Bharamal Rao, 1028

Bharatpur, Raja of, *see* Ranjit Singh

Bhat (H. learned man, scholar, phi-

- losopher; a title of Maratha Brahmins), 1039
 Bhawani Chaudhri, sent against Zamindar of Mayurbhanj, 317
 Bhawani Das Sahu, brother of Gopal Das Sahu of Benares, 469, 850, 913
 ———, *gumāshṭa* of, *see* Nagin Das
 Bhawani Pandit (Appa), *Bakhshi* and *Diwan* of Maharaja Mudhoji Bhonsla, 160, 230-1, 525, 630, 784, 949; his pilgrimage, 63-4, 100-1, 161, 189, 197, 228-9, 233, 297, 299, 397, 404, 423; biographical note, 62*n*; reaches Benares, 298; at Allahabad, 196
 Bhawani Pandit, Munshi, 508, 1243
 Bhawani Parshad, Lala, *gumāshṭa* of Lalji Mal, 165, 282, 411
 Bhawani Singh, Raja, brother of Raja Kalyan Singh, 395, 415; his case against Abdush-Shakur, 714, 974; sent to Chhattisgarh, 949
 Bhimraj Bakhshi, biographical note, 255*n*; fight with Tukoji Holkar, 795
 Bhimraj Singh, note, 763*n*
 Bhim Singh, Raja of Udaipur (1778-1828 A. D.), 100; note, 259*n*
Bhoṭa (S. dressed food offered to an idol by Hindus), 142
 Bhograi, *pargana* in Bolusore, 1420
 Bhojraj, *boṭpārī*, 124; suggests control of grain prices, 125
 Bholu Singh, 1164
 Bhoonan Bag, *mustājir* of Bibiganj, 1249
 Bhuili, *pargana* in Mirzapur District, United Provinces, 441
 Bhulka, village in Cooch Behar, 1161
 Bhup Narayan Singh, Babu, introduced to Mr Duncan, 122-3; his *vakil* disallowed, 159; request restoration of his rights, 866, 1037
 ———, *vakil* of, *see* Daryao Singh, Lala
 Bhutan, independent state in Eastern Himalayas, 76, 398, 664, 1286
 ———, Raja of, allegations against, 76
 Bibiganj, 1249
 Bibi Sāhibā, mother of Nawab Sirāj-ud-Daulah, 1459
 Bibi Zeban, 835
 Bidar, town and district in Gulbarga Division, Hyderabad, 303
Bigha (H. measure of land varying in extent in different parts of India), 142, 171, 616
 Bihar, 6, 14, 335, 436
 Bijainagar, 1018
 Bijairam, Raja, defeats Tipū, 782
 Bijai Singh, Maharaja of Jodhpur (1753-93 A.D.), 234, 382, 617, 701, 795, 834, 904, 964, 1062; invites Timūr Shāh to invade India, 894, 1548; sends bullocks, 1579
 Bijni, estate in Goalpara District, Assam, 672, note, 1392*n*.
 Bikaner, one of the largest states in Rajputana, north-east of Bahawalpur, 1107, 1548
 Bikramajit Singh, Raja, Zamindar of Shahabad, 225, 444
Bila-bandī (an account of the revenue settlement of a district, specifying the name of each *mahāl*, the farmer of it and the amount of the rent), 772
 Bilas Ray, Ghulām Qādir's servant, 921, 1098; taken prisoner, 997
 Bimbaji Bhonsla, younger brother of Mudhoji Bhonsla, biographical note, 197*n*; his death, 198, 249, 296
 Bimpur, *mahāl* in the suburb of Patna,

- granted to Nawab Munīru'd-Daulah, 957
- Bindraban, Babu, *vakīl* of Raja Tej Chand, 368, 506
- Binodram, Rai, 790
- Bir Bhan, Munshi, agent of Dil Diler *khān*, 174
- Birbhum, District in Bengal, 32, 472, 615-16, 811
- , Zamindar of, *see* Bahādur Zamān *Khān*; Muḥammad Zamān *khān*
- Birendra Narayan, son of Khagendra Narayan, the Nazir Deo, 200
- Bireshwar Mustauḥ, brother of Jogeshwar Mustauḥ, his appointment as *nāib* at Rokanpur, 483, 690, 711, 1175, 1203
- Birt (H. grant or endowment to any person for his maintenance or for religious and charitable objects), 544
- Bischel, Mons., his confinement, 251
- Bishambhar Pandit, *vakīl* of Mudhoji Bhonsla and Raghuji Bhonsla, 46, 48, 101, 161, 195-7, 230-1, 525, 558-9, 630, 910, 920, 950, 975, 1039-40, 1118, 1134, 1168, 1212, 1243, 1310, 1359, 1419, 1429, 1508, 1588; his pilgrimage, 195; proceeds to Calcutta, 709; requests payment of his dues, 749; receives present, 949
- Bishan Kunwar, Dowager Rani of Burdwan, 34, 238, 739, 922; goes to Burdwan, 204; seeks permission to discharge Daya Chand, Lala Babu, etc., 948; her *nazr* declined, 965, 1501; sends *nazr*, 1473
- Bishan Singh, Raja of Bundi State (1773-1821 A. D.), 361, 673 689, 702, 1438, 1461, 1485, 1489; requests *dastak* for his servants, 337; his pilgrimage, 1107
- Bishnupur, *pargana* and town in Bankura District, Bengal, note, 82*n*, 412, 1020, 1104
- Boats, construction of certain types prohibited, 963
- Boda, village and *thāna* in Rangpur District, 803, 1229, 1286
- Boddam, R. H., Governor of Bombay (1784-8 A. D.), resigns his post, 496
- Bogle, G., 664, 886
- Bombay, 400, *passim*
- Briscoe, Colonel, biographical note, 250 *n*
- Bristow, John, Resident at the Court of Oudh, 112
- Broach, taluk in Bombay, 955, 1019, 1444.
- Brooke, William Augustus, 415, 716-17, 864, 957; *dastak* granted to, 345; allegations against, 368, 772; imposes fine on Raja of Burdwan, 820
- Bū 'Alī *Khān*, Hakīm, 764, 1098; taken prisoner, 997
- Budge-Budge, town in Twenty-four Parganas District, Bengal, notes 1074*n*, 1144
- Bulāq Beg, bridge in Murshidabad, 23
- Bulāqī Begum, *kuchā*, situated near Dariba, Delhi, 763; plundered by Rohillas, 764
- Bul Chand, *Qanūngo* of Rangamati, Nazir Deo takes refuge with, 179
- Bundasil, *pargana*, khedas at, 389
- Bundelkhand, note, 59 *n*, 1202
- , Raja of, *see* Dhokal Singh
- Bundi, State in Rajputana, Raja of, 1438
- Burdwan, District in Bengal, 34, 171, 204, 213, 238, 253, 284, 315, 342, 368, 472, 676, 860, 963; heavy

- rains at, 402 ; scarcity of grain at, 629 ; construction of roads at, 819
- , Collector of, 1525, 1535
- , *Diwān* of, 922
- , Dowager Rani of, *see* Bishan Kunwar
- Burges, Edward Eyre, Judge of Murshidabad *Diwān* *‘Adālat*, biographical note, 23*n*, 126, 151, 221, 335, 577, 999, 1327 : to repair bridges at Murshidabad, 151
- Burhān-‘Ull-Mulk, Sa‘ādat Khān, biographical note, 754*n*
- Barrowes, C., Collector of Midnapore, note, 332*n*, 582
- Ba-hby, —————, 14
- Bussy, M., biographical note, 59*n*
- Calcutta, 1, 4, *passim*, tolls and duties on grains suspended at, 129 ; abolition of Custom House at, 486
- Calcutta Madrasa, 1581 ; arrest of some students of, 1535-7
- Calicut, city and port in Malabar District, Madras, 751, 853, 1225 ; Tipū Sulṭān at, 700
- , Raja of, 748
- Campbell, Maj. Gen. Sir Archibald, Governor of Madras (1786-9 A. D.), 459*n*, 523, 1087, 1143 ; biographical note, 35*n* ; his treaty with Nawab of Arcot, 1417
- Cannanore, Queen of, *see* Ali Raja Bibi Cannon, supplied to Nawab Vazir, 1558, 1568, 1572
- Carnac, General J., biographical note, 957*n*
- Carnatic, the, 38, 782
- Cartier, J., Governor of Bengal (1769-72 A. D.), biographical note, 171*n*
- Cash (a copper coin of low value current in South India, eighty of which made one *fanam*), 1433
- Cattle, murrain prevailing at Tirhut among, 554
- Cawnpore, town and district in United Provinces, 107
- Chabutra (H. a raised bank or terrace, custom house, a market place), 60
- Chait (H. 12th Hindu solar month corresponding to Mar.-Apr.), 569
- Chaitan Singh, *mahājan*, 208
- Chaitan Singh, Raja of Bishnupur, 82 ; requests restoration of his *mushāhara*, 1104 ; biographical note in vol. VII
- Chait Singh, Raja of Benares (1770-81 A. D.), 225, 467, 979, 1020 ; biographical note, 6*n*
- Chait Singh, son of Achal Singh, 145
- Chakla (H. subdivision of territory under Mussalman rule), 142, 1711, 472, 621
- Chakla Khurch (H. expenses of the whole *chakla* or district charged in proportion to each ryot, under the old revenue system of Bengal), 311
- Chālān (H. an invoice, a voucher, a pass, a document sent with goods or treasure), 1572
- Chaman Lal, Lal, *vikil* of the Peshwa, 278, 385
- Chambal River, 334, 531 ; note, 244*n*
- Champaign, J., Member, Calcutta Committee of Revenue, 305
- Champaran, district in Bihar, 5*n*
- , Collector of, 6, 1386
- Champat Ray, Lala, *vikil* of, *see* Munshi Sukh Lal
- Chandernagore, French settlement on the bank of Hooghly above Calcutta, 1034

- Chandni Chauk, Delhi, 763 ; note, 763*n*
- Chandragiri, town and taluk in North Arcot, Madras, English army mobilised near, 249
- Chandu Mian, *Khansamah* of Shaikh Muḥammad Ḥayāt, 981
- Chandwa, *pargana* in Monghyr, 371, 417
- Chanpadanga, village, 76
- Chanzo Cusho, *peshkar* of Teshu Lama, 1069 ; sends presents, 978
- Chapman, Charles, biographical note, 630*n*
- Chaturbhuj, brother of Ram Kishan Tewari, 1438, 1489
- Chatr (P. an umbrella), 251
- Chaudhrī (H. the headman of a caste, guild, profession, or trade; the headman of a village), 902
- Chaukī (H. watch, guard ; station of police or customs), 407 ; abolition of, 576
- Chaukīdār (H. watchman, guard, sentinel, village watchman), 89, 166, 299, 345, 360
- Chaupāla (H. litter, sedan), 1039, 1571
- Chausa, *pargana* in Ghazipur District, United Provinces, 164, 340 ; establishment of *chaukī* at, 486
- Chauth (S. assessment equal to one-fourth of the actual government collections demanded by the Marathas from the princes of India as price of forbearing to ravage their countries), 249, 303
- Chauvet, Lewis John, 541, 880, 1161, 1196 ; biographical note, 316*n*; deputed to Cooch Behar, 316, 398, 455, 542, 803, 903
- Cheery, J. W., Secretary of the Surat Factory, 1444
- Chehlum (P. fortieth ; the fortieth and final day of mourning), 590
- Chelā* (H. servant, slave, pupil, disciple, especially one brought up by a religious mendicant to become a member of his order), 1341
- Chenapatan, old name of Madras, q. v.
- Cherry, G. F., 48, 391, 355, 389, 614, 851, 1184, 1247, 1334, 1597, 1512-13, 1551 ; biographical note in vol. VII
- Chhakrā* (H. a two-wheeled cart), 1481
- Chhatarpur, state in Central India, battle between Arjun Singh and Beni Huzuri fought at, 571
- Chhatar Singh, Rana of Gohad, 109, 891
- Chhattisgarh, town and division in Central Provinces, 949
- Chicacole, town and taluk in Madras, 1273
- Chichakottah, small town, 19 miles north of Cooch Behar, 1161
- Chigwan, *tappa* in Champaran District, Bihar, 5, 6
- Chilka Lake, inland gulf in Puri District, Orissa, note, 433*n*
- Chimnaji, *see* Khandoji Bhoosla
- China, 599
- , Emperor of, *see* Kien-Lung
- Chīnī* (H. sugar), 36
- Chinnur, town and taluk in Adilabad District, Hyderabad, 1028
- Chinsura (or Chuchra), town in Hooghly District, Bengal, 21*n*, 92-3, 145
- , Dutch Director of, 145
- , Dutch Factory at, 1012
- Chirakkal (Cherika), taluk in Malabar ; outrages committed by Raja of, 523, 751
- Chittagong, town, port, and district in Eastern Bengal, 963 ; abolition of Custom House at, 486
- , inhabitants of, addresses in favour of Hastings, 1090

- Chobdār* (P. staff bearer, mace bearer), 764
- Chokhraj, Maharaja, deputed to royal presence, 80
- Chota Nagpur, division in Bihar with its headquarters at Ranchi, 784, 949
- Chuchra, *see* Chinsura
- Chunakhali, old suburb of Murshidabad, 1232
- , *pargana*, 1249
- Chunar, town and *pargana* in Mirzapur District, United Provinces, 250*n*, 441, 1474
- Chunargarh, Chunar fort in Mirzapur District, United Provinces, 461, 470
- Chunwanpur, near Chunakhali in Murshidabad, 1232, 1245
- Churakarn* (H. the ceremony of shaving the head all but one lock; tonsure), 472
- Circars, Northern, equivalent to the modern districts of Guntur, Godavari, Kistna, Ganjam and Vizagapatam of Madras Presidency, 329, 1273; salt from 520, 883
- Clavering, Sir John, biographical note, 957*n*
- Clive, Robert Lord, Governor of Bengal (1758-60; 1765-7 A. D.), 957, 984
- Cochrane, Lieut., 1590
- Coins, 249
- Coimbatore, city and district in Madras Presidency, note, 1570*n*
- Cooch Behar, state in Bengal, 179, 200, 290, 398, 455, 541, 569, 803, 903
- , Maharani of, *see* Kamateshwari Rajmata
- , Raja of, *see* Harendra Narayan Bhup
- Cornwallis, Commodore William, 1590; biographical note, 1467*n*; arrival at Madras, 1532-3; in Bengal, 1467, 1492, 1514, 1542, 1550
- Cornwallis, Earl, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief (1786-93 A.D.), 7, 66, *passim*
- Coromandel Coast, East coast of Madras Presidency, 1439; importation of salt from, 520; salt manufactured at, 883
- Cotton, duty on, 66
- Court of Directors, 132-4
- Cox, Lieut. Hiram, Captain of the *Dodalay*, 1576; biographical note, 1576*n*
- Cuddapah, town and district in Madras, 1028, 1450; taken by Tipū Sultān, 992
- Cumbum, town and taluk with fort in Kurnool District, Madras, 807
- Cumming, Capt., Stuart, complaint against, 464; biographical note, 464*n*
- Customs, regulations, 486, 548
- Cuthbert, Benjamin, biographical note, 569*n*
- Cuttack, town and district in Orissa, 317, 356, 407, 432-3, 508, 613, 707, 914, 1153; salt manufacture at, 749
- , *Subadār* of, *see* Rajaram Pandit
- Dacca (also called Jahangirnagar), 107-8, 125, 172, 243*n*, 323, 328, 963; tolls and duties on grains suspended at, 129; fire at, 352, 392; abolition of Custom House at, 486
- , Nawab of, *see* Saiyid Ali Khān
- Da Costa, Lawrence, clerk, 1012
- Dacres, Philip Milner, biographical note, 957*n*
- Dagon, *see* Rangoon
- Dāk* (H. post for conveyance of letters, the mail), 135, 310
- Dalai Lama, head of the Buddhists in Tibet, 977

- Dām* (H. a copper coin), 14, 833 ; note, 14*n*
- Damodar Singh, Raja, requests restoration of his allowance, 82 ; biographical note in vol. VII
- Damri Lal, Lala, *vakil* of Rai Banwari Lal, 205 ; returns from Calcutta, 1297
- Dandān-i-māhi* (P. the bones of a certain fish of which knife-handles are made), 1511
- Dāndī* (H. a boatman, a rower), 688
- Danes, the, 91
- Darap Deo, Raikat, Zamindar of Baikunthpur, 369 ; requests restoration of his ancestral property, 76 ; dispute with Deb Raja, 541-2
- Darap Singh Deo, *see* Devi Sinha Dev II, Raja
- Darbar* (P. court, hall of audience ; holding of a court, a levee ; royal audience), 829
- Darbhangā, district and town in Patna division, Bihar, 305, 415
- , Judge of, 714
- Dariba, bazar in Delhi, 763 ; plundered by Rohillas, 764
- Dārogha* (P. the headman of an office, a superintendent, an inspector of police ; the prefect of a town or village), 129, 255, 577
- Daryao Singh, Lala, *vakil* of Babu Bhup Narayan Singh, 866
- Dasahra* (H. Hindu festival in honour of Devi or goddess consort of Siva, celebrated for nine days towards the end of Sept.), 446
- Dastak* (P. passport, permit, license), 166 ; granted to Muḥammad Ja'far, 421, Lala Shambhunath, 591, Hari Bhadrā Pandit, 669, Maulavi Ghulām Muḥammad, 1435 ; Dinanath Upadhyaya, 1446, Lala Gulab Ray, 1478, Guru of Raja B. Jhraj, 1481, Salāmū'llah Khān, 1509, Babu Faran Chand, 1510, dependants of Nawab 'Alī Ibrāhīm Khān, 1025 Baijnath Shankar Rao, 1567
- Dastār-Sarbasta* (P. a turban closed at the top), 422
- Dā'ūd 'Alī Khān, Saiyid, 459
- Daudputra tribe, note, 1107*n*
- , Chief of, *see* Bahāwal Khān
- Daulat Rām, Minister of Raja of Jaipur, 255
- Daulat Singh, Kunwar, son of Raja Kalyan Singh, 1475 ; requests interview, 447 ; interview granted, 538 ; returns to Patna, 835 ; sends *narr*, 923 ; declined, 965 ; offers congratulations on the recovery of King George III, 1374, 1423
- Dawson, Mathew, Collector of Murshidabad, 629, 1160 ; complaint against, 1256
- Day, Mathew, Collector of Dacca, 688, 737, 1097 ; biographical note, 107*n*
- Daya Chānd, B. B. A., 948 ; his expulsion from Burdwan, 1088, 1103
- Daya Rām, Raja, 957
- Deapara (Dahapura), suburb of Murshidabad, 690
- Debi Dat, Lala, *vakil* of Tegh 'Alī Khān, 273
- Debi Parshad, Raja, 276, 338
- De Boigne, Beroit, Savoyard, general in Sirchia's service, 795 ; biographical note, 561*n*.
- Deb Raja of Bhutan, 498, 542, 886, 1142 ; deputation of Mercer and Chauvet intimated to, note, 393*n* ; his dispute with zamindar of Baikunthpur, 541, 664 ; requests confirmation of his possession of Jalpesh, 886 ; sends fruits, 1092 ; disputes with Cooch Behar, 1161 ; to pay revenue of Bijni in cash, 1392
- Deccan, the, note, 66*n*, 99, 234

- Delhi (also called Shahjahanabad), 42, *passim* ; Jahāndār Shāh at, 37, 69; disturbances at, 99, 571, 627, 680, 734, 763-4, 773, 791, 795, 797
- De Montigny, Col., biographical note, 707*n*, arrives at Hyderabad, 707, at Chandernagore, 1034
- Deola, in *pargana* Rattandi Kabkapur, 981
- Deokishan Pandit, *vakil* of Raja Uttam Chand, 366
- Deorhī* (H. a threshold, a porch), 524
- Deorhī Mahāl*, *Mahāl* allotted for the maintenance of the Ranis of Burdwan, 472
- Deotā Sūrat* (H. lit. image of god a term of respect), 7
- Deshmukh, Raja, *see* Ladoji Deshmukh Shitole
- , mother of, her pilgrimage, 489, 654, 667
- Desmukh* (Mar. a hereditary native officer under the former governments, exercising chief police and revenue authority over a district, containing a certain number of villages, and responsible for the revenue), 1275
- Despandeah* (Mar. the hereditary revenue accountant of a district or a certain number of villages holding office by hereditary tenure, and paid by lands), 1275
- Devi, goddess Durga, image of, 446 577, 1213, 1537
- Devi Sinha Dev II, Raja of Khurda, note, 1118*n*
- Devottara* (S. a religious endowment land granted rent-free for the support of a temple), 1157
- Dhan Singh, Lala, servant of Raja of Jaipur, 1062, 1565, 1578-9, 1580 ; goes to Benares to repair religious houses, 488, 517
- Dhar, town and state in Central India; 561
- , Raja of, his pilgrimage, 1107
- Dharam Das, *Dīwān* of Kurnool, 900
- Dharindhar Upaddhaya, *vakil* of Raja Kirtibum, 723
- Dharma Raja of Bhutan, note, 408*n*
- Dharm Chand, Lala, 929, 961, 1134, 1243
- Dharm Mūrat* (H. lit. image of righteousness, an epithet of respect), 7
- Dhiraj Narayan, Raja, 980
- Dhokal Singh, Raja of Bundelkhand, 50-1
- Dhokal Singh, *barqandāz*, 208
- Dholpur, State in Rajputana, 255
- Dhus, *pargana* in *tahsil* Chanauli, Benares District, United Provinces 441
- Dikshit Upaddhaya, Babu, his pilgrimage, 1243
- Dilāwar Jang, Nawab Mu'īnu'l-Mulk son of Nawab Muḥammad Riza Khān, 543, 783, 796, 1079 ; biographical note, 327*n*; his illness, 327, 1048 ; his allowance, 416, 439, 1252; his recovery, 519, 521, 731-2 ; his *nazr* declined, 767
- Dilāwar Jang* (P. bold in war), title of Capt. Kennaway, q. v.
- Dil Diler Khān, Nawab Diler Jang, brother of Nawab of Farrukhabad, 176, *passim* ; his allowance, 8, 36, 174, 1083 ; requests permission to correspond with Nawab Vazir, 391, permitted, 405, 490 ; vacates Shivala for Prince, 422 ; permitted to visit Prince, 443 ; birth of his son, 735 ; offers congratulations on the recovery of George III, 1388, 1423; condoled on death of sister, 1476
- , mother of, her *jāgīr*, 60, 175, 491
- Diler Himmat Khān, Muẓaffar Jang, Nawab of Farrukhabad, 28, *passim* ;

- and collection of duties at Farrukhabad, 210, 240, 597; his maladministration, 491; sends address in favour of Hastings, 586; sends Wajihullah to Calcutta, 785; his tribute, 1044, 1072, 1193
- , *wakil* of, see Wajihullah, Munshi
- Diler Jang* (P. brave in war), title of Babar 'Alī Khān, q.v.
- Dinaipur (also called Pinjra), district in Bengal, 33, *passim*
- , Collector of, demands private seal of the Maharaja, 592
- , *Dīwān* of, see Ram Kanta Rai
- , inhabitants of, send addresses in favour of Hastings, 587
- , Provincial Council of Revenue, 76
- , Raja of, see Radha Nath
- Dinanath Upadhyaya, *wakil* of the Raja of Nepal, 5, 6, 1386, 1440, 1507, 1589; purchases muskets for Ran Bahadur Sah, 695; *dastak* granted to, 696; sends *nazr*, 809
- Lin Muḥammad, 957
- Dip Chand, Rai, 9, 136, 176, 261, 736, 771, 1083, 1138, 1235; his allowance, 137, 1205, 1220; complains against the sepoys of Farrukhabad, 1270, 1322; permitted to reside at Lucknow, 1313
- Dīwān* (P. head of the Revenue and Finance Department, Minister, Chief Officer of State), 51
- Dīwāni* (P. office of the *Dīwān*; the right to collect and receive the revenues of a country), 436
- Dīwāni 'Adālat* (P. Civil Court), 23n, 1204
- Doab, the, (P. lit. two waters; tract of land lying between the Ganges and the Jumna), 561
- Dodlag* (ship), 1576
- Dorson, Mons., French officer in Sindhi's service, 763; negotiates with Ismail Beg, 764
- Doshāla* (P. a pair of shoes), 255, 1450
- Doukotta, village, 281
- Douglas, Henry, deputed to Cooch Behar, 1229
- , J. W., Collector of Purnea (1787-8, allegations against 565
- Dowlatpatty, 992
- D'Oyly, Sir John Hadley, Resident at Murshidabad (1789-5 A.D.), 132, 134, 412, 1249
- Duncan, Jonathan, Resident at Benares (1787-94 A.D.), 6, 7, 8, *passim*; at Jaunpur, 235; authorised to hear appeals, 439; at Sikraul, 590; his services appreciated by Qutlaq Sultān, 563, 924; to give party on recovery of King George III, 1367
- Duncanson, Lt., W.M., at Cooch Behar, biographical note, 160n; allegations against, 289, 569
- Dupleix, Joseph Francis, Governor of Pondicherry, 59n
- Durga Kund, garden near Durga temple in Benares, residence of Nawab Sa'adat 'Alī Khān, note, 601n
- Dutch, the, 91-2
- Dutch Factory, Chief of, 1012
- Dzangoon, see Rangoon
- East India Company, English, 4, 6, *passim*
- Elephants, for Shāh 'Ālam, 418
- Ellore, town and sub-division in Kistna District, Madras, 1185, 1273
- Emperor, see Shāh 'Ālam
- England, 107n, 202, 222, 354, 469
- Europe, 82, 132, 248, 336, 362
- Faizullah Khān, Nawab, Ruler of Rampur, 24, 55, 85, 97, 110, 120, 140-1,

162, 186, 250, 414, 452, 462, 499, 553, 593, 638, 713, 722, 738, 741, 750, 769, 778, 837, 888, 902, 1051, 1059, 1060, 1131, 1136, 1181, 1190, 1233, 1249, 1312, 1329, 1430, 1445, 1539, 1541; professes friendship, 84, 1066, 1223, 1251, 1358; pleads ignorance about Muhammad 'Azim Khān's activities, 138; deposes Lala Raushan Ray to Calcutta, 815, 928; offers to punish Ghulam Qādir, 845; enthronement of Akbar Shāh intimated to, 561; receives Mirza Sulaimān Shikoh, 1132; alleged interference in Kurnawn *raj* affairs, 1164, 1297, 1298; offers congratulations on the recovery of King George III, 1371, 1423; sends news on the occasion, 1424; biographical note in vol. VII

————, *vakil* of, see Lala Raushan Ray and Raja Uttam Chand Faizullah Khān, Qāzī, Minister of Timūr shāh, biographical note, 1357n

Faiz'un-Ni'ā Begum, widow of Nawab Ikram'u'd-Daulah, requests restoration of the mosque and college of her father-in-law, 999, 1327

Falakata, village in Jalpaiguri District, Bengal, 664, 883

Fanam (it was anciently a gold coin, but latterly of silver, or sometimes of base gold. It bore various local values but according to the old Madras monetary system, prevailing till 1818, 42 fanams went to one star pagoda), 1433

Faridabad, town in Gurgaon District Punjab, 617, 680; Sindhia's troops at, 624

Faiz'u'd-Dīn Khān, Hafiz, Nizam's envoy to Tipū Sultān, note; 240n;

audience with Tipū Sultān, 251; his opinion of Tipū Sultān, 459; his second deputation to Tipū Sultān 590; reaches Seringapatam, 1028; leave for Hyderabad, 1579

Farighkhatī (A. written receipt or acquittance), 1972

Farmāishāt (P. a requisition on a village for small articles of consumption as grass, firewood, etc. formerly levied for the use of the district officers), 27

Farmān (P. royal grant or charter), 323, 427, 730

Farmanbari, court of justice built at Murshidabad, by Shujāu'd-Daulah, Nawab of Bengal (1725-39), 971

Farrukhabad, town and district in United Provinces, S, 69, 136-8, 201, 210-12, 233, 255, 491; collection of duties at, 249; Jihāndār Shāh arrives at, 242 263, 275

————, inhabitants of, send addresses regarding the administration of Hastings, 533

————, Nawab of, see Diler Himmat Khān

Fasli (A. harvest or revenue year. This era was instituted by Emperor Akbar), S, 136, 164, 273, 349, 441

Fatehgarh, town in Farrukhabad District, United Provinces, 459, 598

————, cantonment, 590

Fatehpur, 255

Fateh Singh, Gaikwar of Baroda (1778-89 A. D.), 1400; requests restoration of Broach, 955, 1019

————, *vakil* of, see Swarup Ram

Fateh Singh, Rao, nephew of the Rana of Gohad, solicits support, 891

Fath 'Alī Khān, name of Tipū Sultān, q. v.

- Fath Chand, Babu, to enquire into arrears of revenue cases, 164; nominated arbitrator, 340
- Faujdarī* 'Adālat (P. criminal court), 446
- Fazl 'Alī Khān, *vakil* of Ismāil Beg Khān, 214, 239, 753-4
- Fazl 'Alī, Shaikh, *vakil* of Nawab Āsafu'd-Daulah, 301, 314, 1140; *dastak* granted to, 1155
- Fendell, John, biographical note, 1256*n*
- Fenwick, Edward, 536
- Fire, at Dacca, 352, 392
- Firozabad, town in Agra District, United Provinces, 152, 255
- Firoz Jang* (P. victorious in war), title of Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, q. v.
- Forrest, Capt. Thomas, 794
- Forster, George, 226, 558-9, 648, 884, 929, 949, 961, 1243; biographical note, 160*n*; deputed to Nagpur, 195, 197, 230, 508, 630; leaves Nagpur, 1124, 1134
- Fort Marlbro', note, 1576*n*
- Fort St. George, *see* Madras
- Fort William, 20*n*, 976, 1074, 1144, 1572
- Fotudār* (H. a banker, a cash keeper, a money-changer), 981
- Fowke, Francis, Resident at Benares (1778-85 A. D.), 67, 441, 979
- France, 329
- Francis, Lt. Col. Robert, marches from Anupshahr to Fatehgarh, 590; biographical note, 590*n*
- French, the, 59, 91; reported breach with the English, 458*n*
- Fullarton, Col. John, Officer Commanding at Cawnpore, 1531*n*
- Fyzabad, town and district in United Provinces, former capital of Oudh; Nawab Vazir at, 532
- Gabriel Vrignon, Captain, 1439
- Gaddi* (H. royal cushion, throne, seat of some eminent personage, 290*n*, *Gaddi thāna* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
- Gadwal, town in Raichur District, Hyderabad, 1579
- Gajraj Misar, note, 449*n*, 1356
- Gandā* (Beng. 4 *courees* = 1 *ganā*; 29 *gandās* = 1 *anna*), 474
- Gandharba Das, *nāib* of Raja Vir Narayan, re-appointment of, 367, 394
- Ganeshbati, village in Bardwan District, Bengal, 171
- Ganesh Gir Sannyasi, *barqandāz*, 179
- Ganesh Rao, Rao, his allowance, 1023; his dispute with Ausan Singh, 1546
- Ganga Bishan, assaults Ramratan, 524
- Ganga Parshad, appointed to investigate Cooch Behar disputes, 179
- Ganga Parshad, *vakil* of Raja Ram Kishan, deputed to Calcutta, 1376; his appointment approved, 1421
- Ganga Parshad, son of Gauri Parshad, Raja, his death, 276
- Ganga Parshad, Lala, appointed *vakil* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh, 1061, 1062
- Ganga Parshad Ray, *vakil* of Iswa Chand, 597
- Ganga Ram, *gumtishta* of Kishan Chand Ray, charge of embezzlement against, 338
- Ganges River, 231, 243*n*, 1297; note, 97*n*
- Ganj* (H. market), 83, 129, 597
- Ganjam, town and district in Madras Presidency, 1566, note, 993*n*
- , Chief of, 1118
- Garh Mandla, note, 1225*n*
- Garhmuktesar, town in Meerut District, United Provinces, 339, 348, 427
- Garwar, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
- Gaura, *pargana* in Ghazipur District, United Provinces, 340

- Gauri Parshad, Raja, elder son of Raja Debi Parshad, his death, 276
- Gaya, town and district in Bihar, 61-4 109-2, 104, 161, 165, 189, 216, 297-8 331, 359-61 ; note, 61n
- , Resident at, 61
- Gayāwāl* (Brahmin of a class or tribe which claims the privilege of conducting the ceremonies of the pilgrimage at Gaya and receiving fees for the same. They also officiate as conductors of pilgrims to the city of Gaya), 1243
- George III, King of England (1739-1820) 679, 1576; his recovery from illness, 1276, 1288, 1291-2, 1294, 1293, 1303, 1311, 1320, 1330, 1343, 1346, 1360, 1363, 1365, 1367, 13702, 1374, 1384, 1388, 1396, 1398, 1413, 1423-4, 1460, 1468, 1475, 1495, 1502, 1543, 1588; celebration of his recovery, 1455, 1465, 1474, 1479, 1493
- Ghaibipur, village in *pargana* Saidpur. 1023
- Ghālib 'Alī, Mīr, King's Head Munshi, 1092
- Ghālib Jang* (P. victorious in war) title of Ahmad Khān, Nawab of Farrukhabad ; Nawab Mirzā Najaf Khān ; Edward Otto Ives, q.v.
- Ghasi Ram, *vakīl* of Prasanna Chand, 145
- Ghāt* (H. landing place on the bank of a river), 1012
- Ghaus, 1157
- Ghausgarh, 13 miles north-east of Shamli in Muzaffarnagar District, United Provinces, note, 571n
- Ghaus Muhammad, *Kumedan*, 255
- Ghazanfar 'Alī, son of 'Imāduz-Zumān, Khān, his confinement, 813
- Ghazanfar Jang* (P. hero of the war), title of Saiyid Khalilullah Khān, q.v.
- Ghazanfaru'l-Mulk* (A. lion of the country), title of Edward Otto Ives, q.v.
- Ghazipur, town and district in United Provinces, 164, 340, 441
- Ghāzi'u'd-Dīn, 765
- Ghāzi'u'd-Dīn Khān, *'Imādu'l-Mulk*, 1107
- Ghulām Ahmad Khān, 363 ; goes to Calcutta, 943
- Ghulām Haider Chaudhri, iacoit, 981
- Ghulām Haider Khān, *Najmu'd-Dawlah*, *Najmu'l-Mulk*, *Saif Jang*, Revenue farmer of Guntur, 896 ; asked to surrender Guntur, 758, 806-7 ; his accounts, 833, 1057, 1071 ; his property confiscated by the Nizām, 968 ; his collections from Guntur, 1273, 1281 ; biographical note in vol. VII
- , *Saif Jang*, *Dīwān* of, see Ranshan Ray
- Ghulām Husain Khān, 974
- Ghulām Husain, Khān, agent of Raja; Bhawani Singh, 415
- Ghulām Husain, Mirzā, 1164
- Ghulām Muhammad Khān, *Mulavi*, *vakīl* of Mirzā Sulaimān Shikoh, 1269, 1365, 1395 ; deputed to Calcutta, 1202, 1261, 1321 ; *dastak* granted to, 1435
- Ghulām Muhammad Khān (Muhammadu'l-Hussainī), Saiyid, 691, 1356 1357, 1451, 1575 ; his interview with Timūr Shāh, 321 ; biographical note, 321n ; requires money for his return journey from Kabul, 322 ; wounded and robbed, 919 ; goes to Murshidabad, 1574 ; see also Ghulām Ahmad
- Ghulām Naqshband Khān, Saiyid brother, of Ghulām Muhammadul-Husainī, 322, 363, 691, 919, note, 321n

- Ghulām Qadīr Khān, Nawab, *Vakīl-i-Mutlaq*, *Amīrūl-Umarā*, *Najībū'd-Daulah*, *Sabit Jang*, 3, 80 *passim*; and the English, 93, 263, 325; occupies fort of Aligarh, 233, 381, 561; and Ismā'il Beg, 334, 617, 765, 787; his retreat from Agra, 680, 693; arrives at Shahdara, 571; negotiates with Nawab Nāzīr, 624; places Belār Bakht on the throne, 623, 631, his rebellious activities, 635, 678, 753, 778, 795, 797, 845, 983; goes to Nili Chhatri, 764; his flight from Delhi, 918, 949; makes Akbar Shāh the king, 925; negotiations with Rānā Khān, 1028; defeated, 1030; taken prisoner, 921, 997, 1038, 1056; executed, 1098, 1143; deserters from the army of, 1164, 1207; biographical note in vol. VII
- Ghulām Qādir, *Qānūngo*, restoration of his villages to, 730
- Ghulām Saiyid Khān, appointed *Dīwān* to the Nizām, 1266
- Gingee, rock fortress in South Arcot District, Madras, English army mobilised near, 249
- Girdāwar* (H. a patrol, a watch, a guard, a superintendent or inspector of police or customs), 981
- Glass, Dr John, Assistant Surgeon at Murshidabad, 327, 519, 731, 1048; note, 327*n*; permitted to accompany Nawab Dilāwar Jang to Rajmahal, 521, 543
- Goalpara, town and district in Assam, 672
- Gobind Ram, Raja, *vakīl* of Nawab Āṣafu'd-Daulah, 30, 106, 192; his pilgrimage to Gaya, 165; his concern on the fall of Governor-General from horseback, 217; requests pension, 235; his death, 256, 309; biographical note in vol. VII
- , brother of, condoled, 309
- , widow of, 257, requests support, 232, 411, 468, condoled, 309
- Goh, *pargana* in Gaya District, Bihar, 14, 15
- Gohad, town in Gwalior State, Central India, 109
- , Rana of, see Chhatar Singh
- Gola (H. storehouse for grain, salt or opium), 108, 125, 529
- Golei Faqir, dacoit, 981
- Golandāz* (P. a cannonier, gannet, bombardier), 795
- Goleonda, fortress and ruined city in Atrāf-i-balda District, Hyderabad, Nizām at, 251, 1028
- Gold mohurs, abolition of *butta* on, 851; suspension of the coinage of, 872
- Gokalgarh, stronghold in Rewari, 255, 925; note, 234*n*
- Gokul Chaudhri, 790
- Gokul Chand Chaube, *vakīl* of Nawab Sa'adat 'Alī Khān, 377, 457, 814
- Goomsur, subdivision and taluk in Ganjam District, Madras, 1419
- Gooty, town and taluk with historic hill fort in Arantapur District, Madras 1570; note, 748*n*
- Gopal Chand Chaube, *vakīl* of Babu Rup Singh, 494, 568
- Gopal Das Sahu, banker of Benares, 56, 216, 692, 830
- Gopalpur, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
- Gopal Ray, Rai, 763
- Gopinath Deo, agent of Babu Vitha Rao, 1316; deputed to Calcutta, 1257; returns, 1499
- Gorakhpur, town and district in United Provinces, 549
- Gosain Brahmachari, *dastak* granted to,

- Go-kharabā, century old Qutbshahi building at Hyderabad, description of, 495
- Goshwāra (P. an embroidered cloth worn as an ornament over the sides of a turban), 235, 422
- Go-login, taken prisoner, 997
- Govind Das, Mahant, 142
- Govind Ram, *jam'adār* of Mr Bogle, 664
- Govind Rao, deputed to Hyderabad, 1025
- Govind Ray, *Kāṭhā*, 763
- Graham, Major J., 957; biographical note, 6n
- Grand, G. F., Judge and Magistrate at Patna, 974, 1049-50; biographical note in vol. VII
- Grahn, embargo on, 118-9; scarcity at Murshidabad, 156, at Dacca, 352, at Burdwan, 320, at Kalul, 796, at Delhi, 925, at Benares, 1107
- Grant, James, Resident at Benares (1758-7 A. D.), 36, 143, 441, 467, 685, 878, 895, 979, 1210; his accounts with Raja of Benares, 27, 39, 67; appoints a board of arbitrators, 164, nominates Kalb 'Alī *Khān* arbitrator, 340; biographical note in vol. VII.
- Gulāb *Khān*, 900
- Gulab Ray, 292
- Gulab Ray, Lala, son of Lala Sewak Ram, returns to Poona, 1477; *dastak* granted to, 1478
- Gulab Singh, *Sābulār* of Raja Harendra Narayan Bhup, 179, 289, 569
- Gul Beg, Mirzā, conspires to depose Shāh 'Ālam, 524
- Gul Muḥammad *Khān*, 255, 754, 763, 765
- Gulshan Bagh, at Hyderabad, 453
- Gumāshṭa (P. agent, representative, officer appointed by a zamindar to collect rents, by a merchant to carry on trade in different places), 18, 36, 130, 172, 277, 338, 369, 444, 629
- Guns, for Pegu, 4; for Āṣafu'd-Daulah, 1491, 1524, 1558, 1572; for Siam, 1401
- Guntur, town and district in Madras, 329, 469, 760, 949, 968, 1274; note, 59n; its cession to the Company, 375, 758, 806-7, 839, 1185, 1272-3, 1281
- Guramconda, 249n
- Gurkhali Raja, *see* Ran Bahadur Sah
- Gurkhas, the ruling race of Nepal, 332
- Gurū (S. lit. 'heavy, weighty', whence metaphorically a person of weight or respectability, as an elder or parent and specially a spiritual teacher or guide), 1481
- Gurudas, Raja, 446, 653, 1174; biographical note, 72n; his illness, 72; permitted to visit Governor-General, 699
- Guzarlān (A. an officer appointed to take tolls both on high-roads and at ferries), 61, 166, 299, 345, 360, 591
- Gwalior, State in Central India, 112, 445
- Ḥabibullah, 1451
- Ḥāfiẓ, famous poet of Persia, 1441
- Ḥāfiẓ Raḥmat *Khān*, famous Rohilla chief (1710?—1774), note, 484n, 500
- Ḥaibat Jang (P. awe in war), title of Zainu'd-Din Aḥmad *Khān*, q. v.
- Ḥaidar 'Alī, Mīr, *jam'adār*, 1572
- Ḥaidar 'Alī *Khān*, Nawab, Ruler of Mysore, 782, 968, 1192
- Ḥaidar Beg *Khān*, Mirzā, *Amīru'd-Daulah*, 18, 19, 78, 86, 178, 255, 487, 498, 531-3, 619, 625, 682, 720, 729, 747, 939, 988, 1001, 1026, 1110, 1179, 1289, 1346, 1377, 1526, 1527, 1529, 1534, 1550, 1584, 1585; and the Company's subsidy, 87-8, 116, 139, 193, 318, 324, 936, 1034, 1328; reduction

- in Prince's allowance suggested to, 326; sends presents to Governor-General, 346; sends fruits, 399, 1095, 1100, 1113, 1136, 1141; to provide for Qutlaq Sultān's expenses, 546; address in favour of Mr Hastings, 585; receives dagger from Governor-General, 647; condoled on the death of his sister, 871, son, 1244; his *naẓr* declined, 1311, 1398; congratulations on arrival of Commodore William Cornwallis from Europe, 1515
- Haidarnagar, (old name Bednore), town in Shimoga District, Mysore, 66
- Ḥaidar Nāik, *see* Ḥaidar 'Alī Khān, Nawab
- Hājī, an Afghan, 906
- Hājī Mahdī, 92
- Ḥakīm Akmal, attendant of Shāh 'Ālam, 1098
- Hanchharam, Lala, 891
- Hansody, village in *pargana* Sheopur granted to Swami Shivanand, 1186
- Harak Chand, *Jagat Seth*, 79, 148, 172, 602, 660, 932; his *naẓr* declined, 965; his proposal to establish a mint at Murshidabad, 1137, 1268; congratulations on recovery of King George III, 1372, 1423; sends *naẓr*, 1373
- Harakram Tewari, *gumāshta* of Manohar Das Sahu, 444
- Hardinge, William, Civil Paymaster at Calcutta (1783-1790?), 1210
- Harendra Narayan Bhup, Raja of Cooch Behar (1783-1839 A.D.), 179, 200, 664; his grievances against Nazir Deo, 180, 880; complaints against Lieut. Duncanson, 289, 569; deputation of Messrs Mercer and Chauvet intimated to, 316; his disputes with the Deb Raja, 398; uests restoration of his possessions from Bhutias, 1161; request confirmation of Sarband, 1196; Mr Douglas appointed to manage his principality, 1229
- , mother of, *see* Kamateshwari Rajmata
- Hari Bhadar Govind Rao, or Hari Bhadar Pandit, brother of Beniram Pandit, 48, 48, 63, 161, 189, 195-7, 229-31, 317, 397, 525, 931, 1124, 1134, 1212, 1243, 1452; proceeds to Calcutta, 191; *dastak* granted to, 669; his inability to proceed to Nagpur, 929; his arrival at Benares, 949
- Hari Kishan, 1249
- Harington, J.E., Accountant to the Board of Revenue, biographical note, 603*n*, 1327, 1359; appointed Collector of Rajshahi, 1340; his appointment as Paymaster of the *Nizāmat* Stipends, 1407-9; ordered to clear off Muḥammad Rīzā Khān's arrears, 1497
- Hari Pandit Phadke, 575, 1124, 1225
- Harkāra (P. messenger, courier, spy), 138, 251, 459
- Ḥasan 'Alī Khān, son of Nawab Sher Jang, 1563; arrives at Murshidabad, 1586
- Ḥasan Rīzā Khān, 49, 533, 746, 1025, 1346, 1359; sends presents to Governor-General, 346; sends fruits, 399, 1035, 1100, 1113, 1136, 1141; to provide for Qutlaq Sultān's expenses, 546; address in favour of Mr Hastings, 585; receives dagger from Governor-General, 647; sends *naẓr* on recovery of King George III, 1293; his *naẓr* declined, 1311, 1398; congratulations on arrival of Commodore William Cornwallis from Europe, 1516
- Hashmat Jang, (P. glory of war), title

- of Saiyid Muḥammad Khān, Nawab of Dacca, q.v.
- Hastings, Warren, first Governor-General of Bengal (1772-85 A.D.), 6, 39, 61, 76, 82, 108, 111, 138, 171, 222, 335, 383-4, 467, 481, 560, 581, 601, 630, 664, 760-1, 879, 886, 957, 971, 984, 1020, 1137, 1257, 1353, 1389, 1392, 1403; addresses in his favour, 582, 712, 801, 1019, 1090
- Hatch, George, Collector of Dinajpur, 311, 592; complaint against, 1298
- Hatkandikha, village in Burdwan, 171
- Hat Naigoli, village in Burdwan, 171
- Ḥauz Qāzī, Delhi, 764
- Haveli, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
- Havili Pinjra, old name of Dinajpur, q.v.
- Ḥayāt Bakhsh, garden-house at Murshidabad, 1249
- Hayatnagar, five *kos* from Hyderabad, 700
- Hijili, *pargana* and *chakla* in Midnapore District, Bengal, 171, 520, 1420, 1508
- , Magistrate of, 963
- Ḥikmat Maāb Khān, Saiyid, *vakīl* of Nawab Muḥammad Rīzā Khān, 194, 767, 1021, 1246, 1291, 1497
- Himmat Bahadur, Raja, 234, 244, 445, 628, 763, 765, 795; with King at Rewari, 255; at Faridabad, 617; biographical note in vol. VII under Anupgir Himmat Bahadur.
- Himmatgir, Raja, *see* Himmat Bahadur, Raja.
- Hindustan (Upper India), 234, 249, 378, 390, 581
- Hirde Narayan Ray, Zamindar of Rattandi Kabkapur, 981
- Holkar, *see* Tukoji Rao Holkar
- Holland, John, appointed Governor of Madras, 1087, 1143, 1532; biographical note, 1087*n*
- Holmes, Thomas, biographical note-531*n*
- Holt, 14
- Hooghly, town and district in Bengal 145, 171, 323, 464, 831; abolition of custom-house at, 486
- Horī (H. a boat formed of a hollowed tree; a canoe; a small flat-bottomed boat; a raft), 1012-13
- Humāyūn Shāh, eldest son of Timūr-Shāh, confined, 798; biographical note, 798*n*
- Hun (H. a pagoda), note, 251*n*
- Hundi (H. bill of exchange), 183, 318
- Ḥusain 'Alī Khān, grandson of Nawab Mīr Ja'far's daughter, 340; allowance for, 560
- Ḥusain Bakhsh Khān, his *jāyīr*, 15
- Ḥusamū'd-Daulah, biographical note, 249*n*; appointed *Karora* of Hyderabad, 303
- Hyderabad, capital of Hyderabad State, 59, 165, 303; note, 59*n*, *passim*
- Ibrāhīm 'Alī Beg Dhonsa, biographical note, 302*n*
- 'Id (A. an important Muhammadan festival), 135
- Iftikharū'd-Daulah, his *naẓr* declined, 1311
- Iftikharū'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān, brother of Wāsiq 'Alī Khān, 1389
- Iftikharū'l-Mulk (A. glory of the empire), title of Saiyid Khalilullah Khān, q.v.
- Int'māmdār (P. supervisor, manager), 749
- Intiramu'd-Daulah, Nawab, brother of Mīr Ja'far, 12
- Intiramu'd-Daulah, title of Capt. Kennaway, q.v.
- I'jāz 'Alī Khān, son of Shukrullah Khān, 25
- I'jāz Khān, *Kūcha*, plundered by Rohillas, 764

- krāmu'd-Daulah, younger brother of Nawab Sirāju'd-Daulah, 999; biographical note, 410*n*; his *nazr* declined, 1311; his tomb, 1327
- 'Imādu'l-Mulk, title of Ghāziu'd-Dīn Khān, q.v.
- Imām Bakhsh Khān, brother of 'Alī Khān, 208
- Imāmbara (H. building in which Muharram is celebrated and services are held in commemoration of the death of 'Alī and his sons, Hasan and Husain), 135, 310
- Imām Khān, son of Bahādur Zamān Khān, death of his father, 812
- Imtiāzu'd-Daulah (P. distinguished person of the empire), title of Saiyid 'Alī Khān, q.v.
- 'Ināyat Shāh, 925
- Ināyatullah, 1451
- Inderman, 211
- India, 7
- Indore, capital of the state of the same name in Central India Agency, 561
- Iradatullah Khān, 167, 1156
- Ishāq 'Alī Khān, son of Nawab Bāqir Khān, biographical note, 1303*n*
- Islām Khān, 43*n*
- Ismā'il 'Alī Khān, 1050
- Ismā'il Beg Khān, Mirzā, 97 112, 138, 234, 242, 244, 255, 275, 303, 795, 925, 1164; defeats Sindhia, 214; his difficulties in capturing the fort of Agra, 233; deserted by Malik Muhammad anī Mon. Lesteneau, 234; negotiations with the English, 239; defeated by Sindhia, 516, 530, 540, 561, 567, 680, 693, 782; reaches Shahdara, 571; his disagreement with Ghulām Qādir, 617, 764-5; negotiations with Nawab Nāzir, 624; deposes Shāh 'Ālam, 631; reaches Delhi, 753-4; joins Rohillas, 763; joins Sindhia, 787-8; attacks Delhi fort with Rānī Khān, 797; biographical note in vol. VII.
- , *wakil* of, see Fazl 'Alī Khān.
- Ismā'il Khān Ghazak, goes to Kandahar, 322
- Iswar Chand, son of Raja Sheo Chand, Zamindar of Nadia, biographical note, 505*n*; death of his father, 507; requests allowance, 544; his incapacity, 557
- , *wakil* of, see Ganga Parhad Ray and Nimu Ray.
- I'tisāmu'd-Daulah, Mīr Munshī, not e 59*n*.
- Ives, Edward Otto, *Mubārizu'd-Daulah, Ghazanfaru'l-Mulk, Ghālib Jang*, 61, 63, 66, 68, 84, 88, 102-3, 110, 126, 138-40, 244, 250, 263, 268, 307, 318, 326, 344, 357-8, 424-5, 496, 531-3, 598, 625, 627, 635, 678, 687, 694, 718-20, 724, 753-4, 861, 878, 926, 934-6, 934, 990-1, 995, 1023, 1035, 1064, 1110, 1123, 1149-50, 1154, 1158, 1170, 1177-9, 1183, 1193, 1202, 1205, 1207, 1224, 1240-1, 1248, 1255, 1261, 1302, 1304, 1328, 1369, 1377, 1403, 1432, 1468, 1472, 1480, 1482, 1581; not to accept bills on Kashmiri Mal and Beshhraj, 198; directed not to visit Shigufa Bakht 916.
- Jackson, Capt. James, 794; commands the *Speke*, 1577
- , William, Registrar of the Supreme Court, biographical note, 679*n*
- Jādedād (P. an assignment of land, a place, assets, funds, resources, property), 445
- Ja'far 'Alī Khān, Mīr Muḥammad, better known as Mīr Ja'far, Nawab of Bengal (1757-60; 1763-4 A.D.),

- 108, 412, 530, 1247, 1448; borrowed money from *Jagat Seth*, 984
- Ja'far *Khān*, Nawab of Bengal, *see* Murshid Quli *Khān*
- Jagannath, temple at Puri, Orissa, note, 142*n*, 917, 1153
- Jagannath Chaube, *gumāshta* of *Jagat Seth*, appeals against his dismissal, 172
- Jagat Seth* (S. banker of the world), title of *Khush-Hal Chand* and *Harak Chand*, q.v.
- Jagdeo Singh, Babu, *nāib* of Benares (1782-4 A.D.), 349; his death, 494, 665
- Jāgīr* (P. hereditary assignment of land and its rent as annuity), 14, 335, 441
- Jagmohan Ray, allegations against 273
- Jagraj Kanubhaju, minister of Adbhut Singh, 332
- Jahānābādī Begam, a widow of Prince Jahāndār Shāh, 779; quarrels with Qutlaq Sultān, 716; adopts Mirzā Shigūfta *Bakht* as her son, 835; her allowance, 1403; requests separate establishment for herself, 1405; separate establishment refused to, 1404
- Jahāndār Shāh, Prince Mirzā, eldest son of Shāh 'Ālam II, 18, 78, 97, 138, 162, 234, 244, 268, 283, 295, 307, 344, 348, 397, 427, 443, 475, 504, 510, 526, 528, 545, 573, 614, 618, 634, 681, 684-5, 687, 718, 72', 728, 752, 755, 779, 781, 835-6, 854, 876, 878, 889, 925, 971, 982, 991, 1038, 1129, 1202, 1243, 1321, 1395, 1403, 1404-5, 1468; arrives at Delhi 37, 69; his *peshkash*, 42, 68, 531-3; seeks military assistance, 112; reaches Firozabad, 152; proceeds to Benares 223, 479; sends his family toward, Farrukhabad, 233; returns from Delhi, Rajmahal fixed for his residence, 243; arrives at Farrukhabad, 250 275; marches towards Jalesar, 255 his residence, 326, 357, 422; his allowance, 358, 378; on way to Sasaram, 406, 440; his last will, 461, 501, 503; his death, 463, 534, 551, 564, 594, 1006, 1146; deposes Mirzā 'Abdur Raḥīm Beg to Calcutta, 478-9; requests 'Alī Ibrāhīm *Khān* not to send his family to Delhi, 552; his *chehlum* ceremony, 590
- , mother of, *see* Tāj-maḥal Begam
- , widows of, *see* Qutlaq Sultān Begam, Jahānābādī Begam
- Jahangirnagar, old name of Dacca, q.v.
- Jahangirpur (Jangipur), town in Murshidabad District, Bengal, note, 107*n*, 629, 1097
- Jahanpur, *mahāl* in the suburbs of Patna, granted to Nawab Munirū'd-Daulah, 957
- Jahān Shāh, crowned king, 628
- Jaipur (also called Jainagar), state and city in Rajputana, 233-4, 244, 275, 382, 1149
- , Maharaja of, *see* Pratap Singh, Maharaja.
- , village in Ahmad-nagar, 707
- Jai Ram, Babu, *vakil* of Raghujī Sindhia, 1092
- Jaitgarh, 255, note, 255*n*
- Jalalpur, *pargana* in Faridpur District, Bengal, 963
- Jalalū'd-Dīn 'Alī, Saiyid, 1537; his *tankhwah*, 1222
- Jalaun, town and district in Allahabad Division, United Provinces, 66
- Jalesar, town in Etah District, United Provinces, 255
- Jaleswar, town and *pargana* in Bala-sore District, Bengal, 306, 317, 477, 1420;

- Man Singh's outrages at, 356
 ———, Collector of, allegations against, 477, 637
- Jalhupur, *pargana* in Benares District, United Provinces, 441
- Jalka* (Beng. a long narrow boat or canoe used by river pirates), 963
- Jalpesh, village with temple in Jalpaiguri District, Bengal, 76
- Jalpesh, deity, 886, 1161
- Jama'* (A. collection; total of territorial assessment), 340, 615
- Jama'bandi* (P. settlement of the amount of revenue assessed upon an estate), 616
- Jama'dār* (P. an officer of police, customs or army; chief or leader of any number of persons), 255
- Jama'kharch* (P. receipts and disbursements), 957
- Jāma' Masjid*, the congregational mosque of Delhi, 623, note, 763*n*; cannon planted at, 764
- Jamāl Muḥammad *Khan Bakhshī*, 1028
- Jama'-wāṣil-bāqī* (P. total received balance; an account in three columns stating the totals of the revenues expected according to the settlement, the amounts received, and the balances outstanding), 1057
- Jamhauli, *ṭappa* in Champaran District, Bihar, 5, 6
- Janaki Ram Singh, brother of Maharani Saraswati, 1208
- Janardan Patel, agent of Hari Pandit, goes to Nagpur, 575
- Jangipur, in Murshidabad, *see* Jahan-girpur
- Jani (Zaini), village, note, 921*n*;
Ghulām Qādir captured at, 921
- Janki Ram, *vakīl* of Raja of Cooch Behar, 200, 289
- Janki Ram Singh, *nāib* of Raja Radha Nath, biographical note, 311*n*;
 asked to surrender the Raja's seal; 592
- Janoji Bhonsla, 784
- Jasārat *Khān*, Jasārat Jang, *Nāib Nāzim* of Dacca till 1778 A.D., 107
- Jaswant Rao, sent to Chhattisgarh, 949
- Jats, the, 244
- Jaunpur, town and district in United Provinces, 285, 287, 319, 370, 441
- Jawān *Bakh.*, Mirzā, *see* Jahāndār Shāh
- Jejur (?), *pargana* in Mustafanagar, 1275
- Jellasore, in Balasore District, 882
- Jessore, town and district in Bengal, 963
- Jesh* (H. 2nd Hindu solar month corresponding to May-Jun.), 40
- Jhalawar, state in Rajputana, 255
- Jhalawar, Chief of, *see* Bahadur Singh
- Jhansi, town and district in United Provinces, 193
- Jibendra Narayan, Diwan Deo of Cooch Behar, 179
- Jigha* (P. ornament of jewels worn in the turban), 155, 163, 170
- Jirba Dada, *see* Jiwaji Bakhshi
- Jiwaji Bakhshi, 561; deputed to attend the King, 334; biographical note, 334*n*
- Jodhpur, state in Rajputana, 234; commotions at, 834
 ———, Raja of, *see* Bijai Singh
- Jogeshwar Mustafi, 690, 711, 1175
- Johnson, Rev. William, his house purchased by the Company, 1005; biographical note, 1005*n*.
- Johnson, Richard, Resident at Hyderabad, 761, 820, biographical note, 221*n*

Johnstone, George, biographical note, 1169*n*, 1202, 1529, 1585

Joshi, powerful Brahmin clan in Kumaun, their enmity with Raja Mohan Chand, 1164; note, 1164*n*

Julūs (A. accession to the throne—regnal year), 352

Jumāda I, II (A. 5th and 6th months of the lunar year), 15, 287, 352

Jumla, in Nepal, 977, note, 728*n*

————, Raja of, 723

Jumna River, of Northern India, note, 763*n*, 795

Jungle Terai, district, 371

————, inhabitants of, their addresses in favour of Hastings, 801

Junūbīs (lit. the Southerners, i.e. the Marathas), 1202

Kabul, Capital of Afghanistan, 321, 906, 1202, 1587; grain scarcity at, 798

————, King of, *see* Timūr Shāh.

Kachahri (H. court house, an office where any public business is transacted), 179, 323

Kachwaha, Rajput clan, 80

Kailpur, village in Burdwan District, Bengal, 171

Kalb 'Alī Beg, to enquire into arrears of revenue cases, 164, 340

Kalb 'Alī Beg, Mirzā, 'āmil of Jaunpur, 441

Kalghī (H. a gem-studded ornament fixed in the turban), 155

Kālī Begam, *see* Mukarrama Bāno Begam

Kalkapur, *mauza* in *pargana* Shahbandar, 920

Kallikota, estate in Ganjam District, Madras, 1419

Kallū, *naqīb*, 255

Kalpi, historic town in Jalaun Dis-

trict, United Provinces, 61-2, 103-4, 1567

————, *Sardār* of, *see* Balaji

Gobind Rao

Kalyani, near Hyderabad, 458*n*

Kalyan Singh, Maharaja, *Nāib Nāzim* of Bihar, 305, 714, 1431; seeks Governor-General's protection, 401; requests re-examination of Bhawani Singh's case, 415, 974; professes loyalty, 430; permitted to see Governor-General, 537; requests restoration of his allowance, 879; biographical note in vol. VII

Kamālū'd-Dīn Husain Khān, Mir, *vakil* of Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, 70, 215, 310, 389, 539, 838, 898, 985, 1034, 1232, 1247, 1277, 1305, 1396

Kamarda Chaur, *pargana* in Balasore District, Orissa, 407, 1420

Kamateshwari, Rani, Rajmata, step-mother of Raja Harendra Narayan of Cooch Behar, 200, 1196; her grievances against Nazir Deo, 179, 881; complains against Capt. Duncanson, 290, 570; claims on Dev Raja, 1162; requests confirmation of Sarbanand, 1197; informed of Mr Douglas's deputation, 1230; requests full powers of administration, 1286

Kamdebpur, village in Burdwan District, Bengal, 171

Kanauj, ancient city in Farrukhabad District, United Provinces, 255

Kandahar, capital of the province of the same name in Afghanistan—322, 798

————, taluk in Nander District, Hyderabad, 495

————, Zamindar of, his rebellion, 495

- Kandar, salt *chauki* on the Brahmaputra opposite Goalpara, 672
- Kanthi, old name of Contai, subdivision in Midnapore District, Bengal, 1420
- Kaparpur, village, 171
- Karam 'Alī Khān, offers to reclaim jungle lands in Birbhum, 615-16
- Karamnasa, the, river of Northern India, note, 486*n*
- Karanda, *pargana* in Ghazipur District, United Provinces, 540
- Karauli, state in Rajputana, 275
- , Chief of, *see* Raja Manik Pal
- Karīm Qulī Khā., Nawab Zī'ū'd-Daulah Tahavvur Jang, son of Nawab Muntirū'd-Daulah I, note, 958*n*; goes to Calcutta, 958, to Lucknow, 1004; attends Thomas Law, 959
- Karīmullah Khān, Hakīm, 768-4
- Kārkharajāt* (P. workshops, factories), 737
- Karorī (H. tax-gatherer, inspector, overseer of a market), 477
- Kashi Nath, *Dīwān*, note, 145*n*
- Kashinath Ray, Zamindar of Jahan-girpur, allegations against, 629
- Kashipur, town and *tahsil* in Nainital District, United Provinces, note, 1164*n*
- Kashmiri Mal, Lala, banker, 18, 27, 36, 39, 139, 318, 1295, 1360; note, 18*n*; his bills disallowed, 198; offers congratulations on the recovery of King George III, 1303
- Kasijora, *pargana* in Midnapore District, Bengal, 142
- Kaṭār (H. a dagger), 744; presented to Nawab Āṣifū'd-Daulah, 1024
- Katehir, *pargana* in Benares District, United Provinces, 441
- Katehr, old name of Rohilkhand, 66
- Kārik* (H. 7th Hindu solar month corresponding to Oct.-Nov.), 311
- Katṭha* (H. a measure of land, the twentieth part of the Bengal *bigha* containing 80 sq. yards or 720 sq. ft.), 1240
- Kaurī (20 *kauris*=1 piece), 1157
- Keda, Federated Malay State, note, 117*n*
- , Sultan of, *see* 'Abdullah Mukarram Shāh
- Kennaway, Capt. J., 797, 780, *passim* deputed to Hyderabad, 347, 374-5, 419, 433, 590, 574, 748, 949, 1272; credentials granted to, 365; interviews Nizām, 700; at Hyderabad, 758; his negotiations with Nizām, 849; requests Nizām to appoint *qāṭ* messengers, 1228; biographical note in vol. VII
- Keoramal, *pargana* in *shakla* Hijili, Midnapore District, Bengal, 367, 394
- Kerbala, battlefield in Iraq, note, 1169*n*
- Kewal Ram, *gumāshṭa*, at the factory of Sheoganj, 629
- Khādim Ḥusain Khān, Saiyid, 412, 1050
- Khādim 'Alī Khān, Saiyid, his allowance, 412-13, 849; allegations against, 562; protests against reduction of his allowance, 603; his allegation against Ismā'īl 'Alī Khān, 1050; account of the *tankh* *cāh* of, 1222
- Khagendra Narayan Kunwar, 7th Nazir Deo of Coosh Behar, 179, 200, 560, 1196, 1229, 1286; proclamation for the appearance of, 146; biographical note, 146*n*; allegations against, 179-80, 280, 880; requests restoration of his inheritance, 455, 803, 903
- , *vakil* of, *see* Srichand

Ghosh

Khairullah, 1451

Khairun-Ni'a Begum, 325

Khairullah Khān, Mirzā, *Imākhān*-*Mulk*, *Ghazipur Jang*, *Diwān* of Nawab Muḥarrakū'l-Daulah, 78, 200; biographical note, 78; appointed *Diwān*, 135, 155, 157, 158-9; birth of his son, 1958, 1964, 1102; sends *nazr*, 1299

Khāliq Bakhsh Khān, 415

Khālīṣa or Khālīṣa Sharīfa (A. office in which the revenue work of the Muhammadan and early British Government was done), 179, 276, 535, 711

Khamar (Beng. lands, the ryots of which do not pay money rent but divide the produce at certain rates of share with the zamindar), 544

Khanam Bazar, business centre near Darib, old Delhi, 764

Khānuzād Khān, 255

Khonde Rao, requests exemption for Alalga Bai from pilgrim tax, note, 1472n

Khandoji Bhonsla, *alias* Chimnaji Bhonsla or Chimnaji Appa, Raja, second son of Mudhoji Bhonsla, 1118, 1225; his disagreement with Raghuji Bhonsla, biographical note, 575n; invited by the Peshwa, 1028; his death, 1540

Khān Jahān Khān, *Faujdar* of Hooghly, 93-5, 145, 218; allegation against, 21; asked to apologise to Mr Tittsingh, 92, 96; complains against Capt. Cumming, 464; requests restoration of his land, 831

khānjar (A. a large knife), 746

Khanjar Khān, 981

Kharakpur, *pargana* in Monghyr District, Bihar, 371

—————, Raja of, *see* Qādir 'A

Khān

Khorid, *pargana* in Ballia District, United Provinces, 441

Khāṣif (A. autumnal harvest), 8

Khāṣ-i-tā (A. receptacle, small silk bag in which letters for great men are enclosed), 63, 197, 321, 707

Khāṣ (A. private, peculiar; as a revenue term it is applied to the management of estates and the collection of the revenue thereof by the officers of government without any intermediate person between them and the cultivator), 1160

Khas Bazar, Delhi, note, 763n; plundered by Rohillas, 764

khāṣ tāllug (H. a taluk or certain district under the immediate management of the state), 83

Khatimpur, village in *pargana* Ahraura Mirzapur District, United Provinces, granted to Rao Bhiga Ram, 979

Khawāṣ (A. special or favourite attendant on some great personage), 425

Khayoli Ram, Raja, 225

khazānchī (P. treasurer), 36

Kheda (H. an enclosure in which wild elephants are caught), at Sylhet, 1105

Khem Chand Ghosh, 367

khil'at (A. dress of honour presented by a superior to an inferior as a mark of distinction), 37, 107, 155, 168, 170, 251, 381-2

Khīradmand Khān, Nawab, brother-in-law of Nawab Diler Himmat Khān, 29, 154, 175, 212, 241, 255, 491, 786, 823, 1045, 1073, 1194, 1506

Khowa (H. pieces of broken bricks), 976

Khurda, town in Puri District, Orissa, 1018

Khurram Bakhsh, Mirzā, *alias* Mu'izzam Shāh, son of Prince Johāndār Shāh, 663, 816, 835, 863, 899, 924; his claim to the throne of Delhi, 925, 982, 1038, 1129; negotiations of his marriage, 1402, 1415, 1448-9, 1528

Khush Chashm 'Alī Khān, 425

Khush-Hal Chand, *Jagat Seth*, biographical note, 172*n*

—————, *gumāshta* of, *see* Jagannath Chaube

—————, Lala, *gumāshta* of Bhawani Das Sahu, 662, 850-1

Khush-Hal Ray, resides at *pargana* Phulpur, 590

khutba (A. sermon delivered from the pulpit during Friday and 'Id prayers), 590; note, 861*n*

Khwāja Akram, 1451

Khwāja Husain, 275

Khwāja Yāqūb, taken prisoner, 997

Kien Lung, Emperor of China, 1038; biographical note, 977*n*

King, *see* Shāh 'Ālam

Kinloch, John, Collector of Burdwan (1788), 717, 772; allegations against, 111, 368

Kirat, Raja, *see* Ram Raja

Kirat Chand, *see* Prasanna Chand

Kirkpatrick, Capt. William, his resignation, 201; biographical note, 201*n*

Kirtibum, Raja of Mallebhum, 792; requests military assistance against Raja of Nepal, 723

—————, his *vakīl*, *see* Dharindhar Upadhyaya

Kishan Chand Ray, son of Raja Debi Parshad, requests for allowance, 276; his complaint against Ganga Ram, 338

Kishan Chand Ray, *gumāshta* of, *see* Ganga Ram

Kishan Chand Ray, *nāib* of *pargana* Rokenpur, 1175, 1200; his dismissal, 483, 690, 711; charges against, 1016

Kishanji Amba Dā. *mustawfi*, his pilgrimage, 905, 952

Kishan Kinker, *gumāshta* of Baikunthpur, 369

Kishan Parshad, 1186, 1211

Kistna River, 807, 1570

Knudson, Col. Christopher, 1232; biographical note in vol. VII

Kodiaganj, 255

Koil, old name of Aligarh, q.v.

Kokan, note, 1447*n*

Kollattiri, King of, 853

Koppal, hill-fort and town in Raichur District, Hyderabad, 249*n*, 900

Korial, another name of Mangalore, q.v.

Kos (H. measure of distance approximately two miles, but varying in different parts of India), 238, 357, 561, 700

Kotah, State in Rajputana, 1438

Kotla Firoz Shāh, Maratha troops arrive at, 764; note, 764*n*

Kotwal (H. chief officer of police for a city, superintendent of market), 616

Kounee, 977

Krishna River, *see* Kistna River

Krishnagar, subdivision in Nadia District, Bengal, 472, 1242, 1399

—————, Treasury of, 640

Ku'ār (H. 6th Hindu solar month corresponding to Sep.-Oct., synonymous with *Āsin*), 136

Kubajpur, *pargana* in Nadia District, Bengal, 544

Kūcha (P. a narrow street, a lane, a narrow passage, an alley), 763

Kujang, *pargana* in Cuttack District

- Orissa, 949
- Kukrachoti, village on the Hooghly in Midnapore District, opposite Diamond Harbour, Bengal, 536, 583
- Kulkatti, 981
- Kumaon, most northern Division of the United Provinces, note, 1207*n*
- Kumadān* (Indian corruption of French commandant. It occurs in Marathi, Persian, Bengali, Assamese, etc.), 255
- Kunduz, Afghanistan*, 798
- Kurnool, town and district in Madras, 707, 748, 900; Tipū's army at, 782
- , Nawab of, *see* Munavvar *Khān* Kutgari, 536
- Kuti, at the head of the Nilam Pass, 977
- Kuṭī (Beng. any large building, a factory, a business house or a bank), 851
- Kutia, *pargana*, 670
- Kyd, Capt. Alexander, biographical note, 20*n*
- Lachhmi Narayan Ray, *Qānūngo*, widow of, 483, 1016, 1175, 1203, requests confirmation of Bireshwar Mustaufi, 690, 711
- Lachhmi Narnan* (ship), 1439
- Lackjūl, jungle of, 616
- Ladoji Deshmukh Shitole *alias* Raja Deshmukh, 234; his mother's pilgrimage, 600, 645, 650, 930
- Lahori Burj, tower on Lahori Gate of Red Fort, Delhi, 764
- Lahori Gate, Red Fort, Delhi, 764; note, 76*n*
- Lakharaj Maḥal* (rent free land, applied to land exempted for some particular reason from paying any part of the produce to the state; alienated or revenue exempted), 1249
- Lakhwa Dada (or Pandit), *Qil'adār* of Agra, 234
- Lakkha* (a kind of boat), 963
- Lakshinarain Chaudhri, *nāib* of Kashi-nath Ray, 629
- Lakshmipur, village in Noakhali District, Eastern Bengal, 981
- Lala Babu, 948
- Lal Bagh, in Seringapatam, Tipū encamped at, 900; note, 900*n*
- Lal Behari Kar, 328
- Lalji Mal, 418; *dastak* granted to, note, 369*n*
- Lalji Munshi, 138
- Lal Singh, brother of Raja Mohan Chand, 1164, 1207
- Lally, junior French officer, 575, 1023
- Lamaji Lhasa Wallah, *see* Dalai Lama
- Lane, Thomas, Chief of Patna, 957
- Langar* (P. a public kitchen, especially for feeding the poor), 1459
- Langarkhāna* (P. an alms-house), 410
- Lankapa Naik Sahu, 1274
- Larkins, William, Accountant General Bengal (1777-93 A.D.), 1210; biographical note, 221*n*
- Lashkarpur, *pargana* in Malda District Bengal, 1160, 1256
- Lattiwala, 894
- Law, Thomas, Collector of Gaya (1784-8 A.D.), 63, 100, 397, 415, 714, 716, 864, 905, 952, 959, 974, 1159, 1187, 1432
- Lawrell, James, biographical note, 957*n*
- Lesteneau, Mons., 255, 561; deserts Ismā'īl Beg, 234; flies towards Farrukhabad, 1148-9, 1171
- Lhasa, capital of the U Province of Tibet, seat of the Dalai Lama, 408, 599, 609, 977, 1386, 1440
- Light, Capt. Francis, 117, 272; biographical note in vol. VII

Lodge, Henry, biographical note, 981*n*

Loknath, Raja, 725

Lucknow, town and district in United Provinces, capital of Nawab Āṣif'd-Daulah, 8, 18, *passim*

————, Resident at, see Ives, Edward Outo

Luṭf 'Alī, Mirzā, *vakil* of Murād'u'd-Daulah, 410

Luṭfu'n-Nisa Begam, widow of Nawab Sirāju'd-Daulah, requests allowance, 108, 1017; requests payment of arrears, 1459

McDowall, D. H., Collector of Rangpur, 146, 989, 1092, 1157

McGowan, John, biographical note, 1249*n*

Machh (H. a fish, name of the first of the ten incarnations or manifestations of Vishnu), an idol, 1258

Mackintosh Dallas & Co., 794

McLeod, Gen. Norman, 853; his treaty with Ali Raja Bibi, 90, biographical note in vol. VII

Macpherson, Col. Allen, biographical note, 1249*n*

Macpherson, Sir John, Governor-General (1785-6 A.D.), 107, 111, 387, 761, 957, 987, 1249, 1353, 1357, biographical note, 107*n*

Madad-i-ma'āsh, (A. an assignment of revenue for the support of learned or pious Muhammadans), 1098

Madad Khān, general of Timūr Shāh, note, 906*n*

Madan Mohan, *peshkār*, 1203

Madar Gate, at Farrukhabad, 255

Madār'u'l-Mulk (P. support of the empire), title of Mahammad Munavvar Khān, q.v.

Madhav Rao Narayan Peshwa (1774-85 A.D.), 220, 234, *passim*; receives presents from Governor-General,

385, 611, 1344; goes to Tripoli, 575; invites Rājāji Bhambhā, 1124, 1212, 1248; see also present of Akāh, 1555; biographical note in vol. VII

————, *khān* of Hyderabad, 601, see Sirāj P. Kh.

————, *khān* of Calcutta, see Lala Chaman Lal

Madho Das, gardener of, at Benares, illuminations at, 1455, 1493

Madho Rao Sindhiā, see Mahadaji Sindhiā

Madho Singh, Raja, Zamindar of *Sarkār* Tihut, 679, 1368; biographical note, 554*n*; requests *taqārī* loans, 554

————, *vakil* of, see Sardar Singh

Madras, also called Chenapatan, 29, *passim*

————, Government of, 1533; directed to afford protection to Sayyid Muhammad 'Āṣim Khān, 315

————, Governor of, see Campbell, General Sir Archibald (1783-9 A.D.); Holland, John (1789-90 A.D.)

Madrasah (A. school, college), 171

Māgh (H. 10th Hindu solar month corresponding to Jan.-Feb.), 72, 253, 315; 351

Maghs or Arakanese, 41

Mahābat Jang (P. awe in war) title of 'Alī Vardī Khān, q.v.

Mahābat Jang, Nawab, son of Basālat Jang, Governor of Raichur, 745, 919, 1570; biographical note, 249*n*

————, *vakil* of, see Tuljaram

Mahābātullāh, deccan, 981

Mahābāt Khān, son of Hādīz Rahmat Khān, 509; biographical note, 484

Maharaji Sindhiā, also known as Madho Rao Sindhiā, famous Maratha chief of Gwalior, 3, *passim*; defeated by Ismā'il Beg, 214; his

—, writes on the approval of 'Alī B. Bahadur and Tukoji, 223; King's grievances against, 244, 445; appeals to Ishwara for reinforcement, 393; recommends the settlement of B. J. Bahadur 'Alī's salary with his sons, 394; requests fidelity for the mother of Raja Dehmadā in the performance of her pilgrimages, 489; defeats Ismā'īl Beg Khān, 500, 501, 537; arrives at Muttra, 571; at Muttra, 624; despatches troops towards Delhi, 678; negotiates with Ismā'īl Beg, 765; his victory over Ismā'īl Beg, 767; his battalions at Delhi, 787; his agreement with Ismā'īl Beg, 788; his troops go towards Patharganj, 833; defeat Ghulam Qutub Khān, 997, 1028, 1030; requests surrender of Shal Das and his sons, 1148-50, 1542, 1591, 1596; his army from Dinajpur, 1890
Mahārāj (S. lit. a great man, but mostly applied to a merchant, banker or money-changer), 298, 311, 360, 582
 Mahārāj Teli, locality in Murshidabad, 23
Mahāl (A. places, districts or sources of revenue), 13, 36
Mahāl (A. a seraglio mansion, palace), 925
Mahā-mahāl (P. private apartment or chamber of a king or nobleman, inner or female apartment), 458
 Mahamand, Rsi, nephew of Raja Gurudas, 72; destruction of his Devi, 446, 577; requests for employment 1173, 1213
 —, *rakūl* of, see Shambhu Chand, Babu
Maharaja Dhiraj Prithipat Bahadur (the mighty raja, lord of the earth), title conferred upon Raja Ram

Kishan of Dinajpur, 1890, 1457
 Manohar Singh, son of Raja Mohan Chand, 1297; his flight to Nankamata, 1164

Mahip Narayan Singh, Raja of Benares, 26-7, *passim*; his *naga* declined, 54, 585; grants *iqṭā'ī* to ryots, 349; asked to assist Rajaram Pandit in the construction of religious houses at Benares, 514, to assist Lala Dhan Singh in the repair of religious houses, 517; his arrears remitted, 842; withdraws his case against James Grant, 895; his agreement with Babu Bhup Narayan Singh, 1037; appoints Ganga Parshad as *rakūl*, 1032; duty on opium payable to, 1391; biographical note in vol. VII

———, his *rakūl*, see Athar 'Alī Khān and Ganga Parshad, Lala Mahārāj (A. profit, tax, duty, excise, custom; the produce or return realised from anything), 621

Mahtab Ray, *Kācha*, 763

Mahul, *pargana* in Azamgarh District, United Provinces, disturbances at, 1583

Mahẓar (A. general application or representation, a statement laid before a judge, a public attestation), 1249

Majhwar, *pargana* in Benares District, United Provinces, 1403

Majlis Ram Ray, 401

Maidapur, old civil station of Murshidabad, 690, 711

Makkhan Begam, widow of Nawab Sadru'l-Haq Khān, complains against Musammāt Sobha, 126, 671

Makkhan Lal, Lala, servant of Qutlaq Sulṭān Begam, 1114, 1127, 1200, 1305, 1380; deputed to Calcutta, 836, 971; *dastak* granted to, 893

- Maktab* (A. a feast given by the parents when a child is first sent to school; *maktab*=school), 1028
- Malabar, 853; note, 523*n*; see also Malevar
- Malay Coasts, 794
- Malda, town and district in Bengal, 775, 1216
- Maldive vessels, 1011-12
- Malet, Charles Warre, Resident at Poona (1786-97 A.D.), 329, 373, 409, 458, 1176, 1243, 1477, 1553, 1557, 1559; his services appreciated by Mushir'u'l-Mulk, 329; biographical note in vol. VII
- Malevar or Malabar, term loosely applied to mean Travancore, 1225, 1570; see also Malabar
- Mālghazī, dacoit, 981
- Mālguzārī* (P. land revenue; rent paid in money; the paying of rent and taxes; the state of a renter; assessed land), 253
- Mālikāna* (P. Proprietary, annual or monthly allowance paid to a zamindar by the person who occupies his lands), 444
- Malika Zamānī Šāhiba, daughter of Emperor Farrukh Siyar and widow of Muḥammad Shāh, biographical note, 617*n*
- Malik Muḥammad Khān, 255; deserts Ismā'il Beg and joins Ranjit Singh Jat, 234; biographical note in vol. VII
- Malkajpeth, Tipū Sultān at, 575
- Mallebhum, in Nepal, 723
- , Raja of, see Kirtibum
- Mangalore, formerly known as Korial, sea-port on the western coast of India, 900, 1570, note, 853*n*
- Mangir Gosain, 1385; his suit against the Zamindar of Jahangirnagar, 1341; see also Ramgir Sannayāsi
- Man Gobind Chaudhri, charges against, 407, 508
- Manik Chand, Rai, *Dicān* of Munni Begam, 1521
- Manik Pal, Raja, Chief of Karauli, 275; biographical note, 1539*n*
- Manikpatam, town in Puri District Orissa, 1018
- Manjhi, *pargana* in *sarkār* Saran, 273
- , Zamindar of, see Tegh 'Alī Khān
- Manjhihat, a place near Patna, establishment of Custom House at, 436
- Manjhū Begam, see Nafisatu'n-Nisa Begam
- Manju Chaudhri, 1519
- Manmohan Rao Pangalia, 329; leaves Hyderabad secretly, 249, 303, 495; his *jāgīr* confiscated, 458, 462
- Manohar Das, son of Gopal Das Sahu, 233, 409, 444, 523, 552, 692, 852, 1219, 1383, 1425; biographical note, 105*n*; his inability to see Governor-General, 216; requests expulsion of Khush-Hal Chand *gumāshta*, 662; requests patronage, 830; his pilgrimage, 1153, 1166, 1214, 1351
- Manohar Dass, his *gumāshtas*, see Harakram Tewari, Munne Ram
- Manse Ram
- Manṣabdār* (P. one in office; holder of some rank or office under the state), 707
- Mansa Ram, *gumāshta* of Gopal Das's firm at Lucknow, 56, 460
- Mansa Ram, *harkāra*, *dastak* granted to, 1184
- Man Singh, Raja, 243*n*
- Man Singh Chaudhri, commits outrages at Jaleswar, 356
- Manṣūr 'Alī Khān, surname of Mirzā Muqīm, q. v.
- Mansurganj in Murshidabad, note, 1249*n*

- Manyar Singh, *Khaddā*, *Gādam* Qādir's commandant, 255, 317, 703-4, 705, 921; captured by the Marathas, 737, 907; negotiations with 'Alī Bāddān, 925
- Manzār and *Khān Nūz*, 1167, 275, 445, 917, 1018, 1147, 1148, 1154, 1179; refuse to side with Shujjān *Khān*, 524; plots to dethrone Shāh 'Ālam, 571, 681; negotiates with *Ghulām Qādir Khān*, 624; suspicion against, 628; taken prisoner, 937, 1053; biographical note in vol. VII
- Marathas, the, 38, *passim*; Agra captured by, 516; Ismā'il Beg defeated by, 540; surround the Red Fort, 833; encamped at Paithan, 1459
- Mariahu, *talūq* in Jampur District, United Provinces, 441
- Marichmati, Rani, aunt of Khagendra Narayan, Nazir Deo of Cooch Behar, 140; complaints against Sarbojanī Gowit, 1157
- , *vol.* of, *see* Ramkrishna Majumdar
- Markham, William, Resident of Benares (1779-83 A.D.), 407; biographical note, 441*n*
- Mary, Virgin, 461
- Māshā Allāh *Khān*, Hakim, 255
- Masjid* (A. mosque), 171
- Masjid-i-Janūb, in Benares, 590
- Masnad* (A. seat of state or throne), 560
- Masulipatam, subdivision in Kistna District, Madras, 1273, 1275, 1279, 1281(7)
- Math* (S. cell, chamber or hut of an ascetic, the house of a devotee and his disciples, a monastery; a college for young Brahmins), 1447
- Matlari, *pargana* in Nadia District, Bengal, sale of, 544
- Matlab *Khān*, Mirzā, courtier of Shāh 'Ālam, 764; insulted by *Ghulām Qādir*, 617; interviews Himmāt Baksh and Desai chiefs, 763, 765
- Mawlat* (A. selected man, teacher, especially of Arabic and Persian, an expounder of Muhammadan law), 577, 957
- Maun* (*Maysoon*), 41, note, 41*n*
- Mauzā* (A. village), 83
- Mayaram, *Jamādār*, 1249
- Mayurbhanj, tributary state in Orissa, 306, 317, 1420
- Mazhar 'Alī *Khān*, Mir, *vakil* of Qutlaq, Sultān Begam, 614, 663, 687, 863; deputed to Calcutta, 594-5; permitted to return to Benares, 610; *dastak* granted to, 665
- Medu, *raṭhlān*, *dastak* granted to, 1184
- Meerut, town and district in United Provinces, burnt by the Marathas, 913
- Merper, Lawrence, 541, 714, 820, 880, 1085, 1105, 1193, 1217-18; biographical note, 316*n*; deputed to Cooch Behar, 316, 398, 455, 542, 803, 903; appointed Collector of Burdwan, 717
- Mewatis, the, tribe in Northern India, 234
- Meyer, George Charles, 565, 1203; biographical note, 276*n*; allegations against, 544
- Mianganj, village in Kanauj *pargana*, Farrukhabad District, United Provinces, 1183
- Miān Ikram, *darlān* of the King, 255
- Miān Hāli Baksh *Khān*, servant of Qutlaq Sultān Begam, 899, 982, 1114, 1127, 1200, 1305, 1380; deputed to Calcutta, 886, 863, 873,

- Middee, Mons., suspected of espionage, 251
- Middleton, Nathaniel, Resident at the court of Oudh, 1249; biographical note in vol. VII
- Midnapore, town and district in Bengal, 142, 303, 317, 339, 862, 1558
- , Collector of, 197, 1508; *see also* Burrowes, C.
- Ming Maha Siha Sarah, minister of the King of Pegu, 724, 802; requests trade relations, 48
- Mint, Aurangabad, 249; Calcutta, suspension of the coinage of gold mohurs at, 872; Farrukhabad, 175; proposal to establish one at Murshidabad, 1137, 1233
- Mir 'Alam, *see* Abul Qāsim, Mir
- Mirganj, *talūq* in Bareilly District, United Provinces, disturbances at, 1432, 1531
- Mir Ja'far, *see* Ja'far 'Alī Khān
- Mir Jānī, 214, 239
- Mir Muẓaffar, 1222
- Mir Saidū, *see* Murtazā Khān, Nawab
- Mirzā Hājī, nickname of Mirzā Shigufta Bakht, q. v.
- Mirzā Jangī, *see* Shahāmat 'Alī Khān, Nawab
- Mirzā Khulil, son of Dā'ūd Mirzā, *see* Khulilullah Khān, Mirzā
- Mirzā Khurram Bakht, *see* Khurram Bakht, Mirzā
- Mirzā Mangī, *see* Sa'adat 'Alī Khān, Nawab
- Mirzā Mendū, *dārogha* of Sindhia's artillery, stationed with the King, 925
- Mirzā Muḥammad, goes to see Governor-General, 1017
- Mirzā Muqīm, better known as Safdar Jang, Nawab of Oudh, biographical note, 754*n*, 1450
- Mirzapur, town and district in United Provinces, 310, 379, 499
- Misri Lal, deputed to Calcutta, 203
- Mitha Lal, *Bakht*, deputed to royal presence, 89
- Mitusayab, Capt., 1439
- Mont, Capt., his dispute with Mayaram, 1249
- Modi (S. a purveyor, a steward), 768
- Moham. Chait, Raja of Kumbha, 1236, 1249; biographical note, 1164*n*; his murder, 1184
- , brother of, *see* Lal Singh
- Monghyr, town and district in Bihar, 371, 1048
- Moonky Dangian* (ship), 1439
- Moore, Peter, 179, 1157
- Moradabad, city and district in United Provinces, 1184
- Morang, old name for the Nepal Thrallying north of Purnea District, Bengal, 1597
- Mordaunt, Col. J., Commander of Nawab Vazir's Bodyguard, 1337, 1364
- Mota Lal, 1098
- Motijhil, lake and palace at Murshidabad, note, 353*n*; mosque and college built by Nawab Shahāmat Jang at, 990, 1327
- Moti Lal, Lal, *wakil* of Nawab Faizullah Khān, 84, 97, 120, 133, 140, 162, 593, 733, 753, 815; celebrates his daughter's marriage, 741; granted leave, 928, 962
- Moti Mahal, Nawab Nāgir under surveillance in, 617; note, 617*n*
- Moti Ram Dadu, *nāib* of Pataspur, 1508, 1566
- Motte, Thomas, biographical note, 831*n*
- Mut-i-mamūlī* (P. customary deductions from the government revenue,

made formerly to the native collectors and farmers on account of charitable allowances or similar remission made by them to their subordinates or to the cultivators), 27
 Mu'azzam Shāh, better known as Khurram Bakht, q.v.
 Mubarakganj, village, 83
 Mubārak Mahal Begam, mother of Prince Mirzā Salim, Shikoh, 925, 982, 1129
 Mubārak 'u'd-Daulah, Nawab Nāzin of Bengal (1770-82 A.D.), 21, 70, 91-6, 125, 131-4, 147, 151, 200, 253, 294, 354-5, 383, 533, 548, 576, 817, 855, 912, 984, 1034, 1059, 1174, 1188, 1213, 1247, 1249, 1267, 1290, 1415, 1535, 1574, 1581; requests repair of bridges, 23; requests control of grain prices, 124; requests supply of muskets and guns, 135; appoints Kasimullah Khān as *Diwān*, 155, 168, 179; his representation to the Court of Directors, 185, 892, 942; sends iss, 215, 969, 1112; asked to curtail expenses, 378, 641; his *khedas*, 359, 1105; his plan to liquidate his debts, 522; sends mangoes, 527, 898, 1263, 1277; complains against Khādīm 'Alī Khān, 562; sends address in favour of Hastings, 553; complains against Lakkhi, narsin Chaudhri and Kashinath Ray, 624; asked to abolish saltpetre factories, 601; requests restoration of the *tankhwa* of *jāgirdārs*, 638, restored, 721, 893; his daughter's marriage, 838, 875, 885, 887, 985, 1233; receives *khil'at* from Qutlaq Sulṭān Begam, 890, 971, 983, 1114; sends present, 951; birth of his grandson, 1101; sends presents to Qutlaq Sulṭān Begam, 1127, 1305, 1380; condoled on the death of his

condolater, 1172, 1198; objects to direct payment of stipends to *Nizām* pensioners, 1222; makes over Chunwanpur to Company, 1232, 1245; to receive Mir Abul Qāsim, 1282; asked to confer title upon Raja Ram Kishan, 1300; appointment of Mr Harington notified to, 1349; his *nazr* declined, 1393; commends Maharaja Kalyan Singh, 1431; proposal for his daughter's marriage with Khurram Bakht, 1443-9, 1523, 1549; supply of saltpetre to, 829, 1564; biographical note in vol. VII

————, *vikil* of, see Kamāl'u'd-Dīn Husain Khān, Mir Mubārak'u'd-Daulah, Nawab, of Masulipatam, biographical note 1453*n*; requests restoration of his *jāgīr*, 1453, 1594

————, his *vikil*, see Saiyid Muhammad.

Mubārak'u'd-Daulah (P. hero of the empire), title of Mr Ives, q.v.
 Muda Narayan, Chaudhri of Lashkarpur, requests allowance, 1160
 Mudhoji Bhonsla, Maharaja, Regent of Berar, 48, 63-4, 100-1, 159-60, 189, 196-7, 226-7, 229-31, 249, 317, 329, 397, 407, 423, 463, 477, 749, 1419; recommends facilities for Bhawani Pandit during his pilgrimage, 228; condoled on Bimbaji's death, 296; his death, 495, 515, 525, 558-9, 630, 649, 708, 949-50, 1124; his *sradh* ceremony, 1225; biographical note in vol. VII.⁴

————, *Bakhshi* of, see Bhawani Pandit.

————, *vikil* of, see Bishambhar Pandit.

Mudi Krishna, minister of Pegu, 1439
 Mufassal (A. country as opposed to

- town, country districts and stations as distinguished from headquarters) 6, 146, 201, 395, 393, 676
- Mufasssal 'Adālat* (P. district court, provincial court of justice), 335
- Muhammadabad, *pargana* in Ghazipur District, United Provinces, 444
- Muhammad Akbar Khān, *dāmdār*, his allowance, 854, 889
- Muhammad 'Alī, dacoit, 981
- Muhammad 'Alī Khān, Nawab of Arcot (1749-95 A.D.), 38, 458, 1087, 1123, 1143, 1192, 1272, 1532, 1590; death of his son, 837, 1028; complains against the Nizām, 992, 1032; to correspond through the Government of Madras, 1417; requests proportionate remission of his subsidy, 1533; biographical note in vol. VII
- Muhammad 'Alī Khān, son of Nawab Faizullah Khān, 183, 187, 493, 757, 769; biographical note, 84n
- Muhammad 'Alī Khān, Saiyid, son of Nawab Sher Jang, 1563; arrives at Murshidabad, 1586
- Muhammad Amin, of Murshidabad, 999, 1327
- Muhammad Amin, Nizām's talukdar, 1028
- Muhammad Amīn Khān, 957
- Muhammad Aminpur, *pargana* in Nadia District, Bengal, Zamindars of, their addresses in favour of Mr Hastings, 801
- Muhammad Ashraf, *Jam'adār*, taken prisoner by Raja Kirat, 575
- Muhammad 'Aṣim Khān, Saiyid, *Diwān* of Nawab of Arcot, his distress, 908, 915
- Muhammad 'Azam, *nākhuda*, 4
- Muhammad 'Azīm Khān, 3, 138
- Muhammad Bāqir, son of Muhammad Kāzīm Khān, 92
- Muhammad Bāqir Khān, 14
- Muhammad Bāqir Khān, son of Nawab Mīr 'Qāsim 'Alī Khān, 144, 193
- Muhammad Ghulām Taqī Khān, his *jāgīr*, 14
- Muhammad Hanif, Chaudhri, 981
- Muhammad Hāqir Shāh, *girdāwar* 981
- , *Diwān* of Nawab Mōhan.
- Muhammad Husain, dacoit of Deola in *pargana* Rattandi Kabkapur, his deposition, 981
- Muhammad Husain, Mīr, Governor-General's agent at Hyderabad, 115, 182, 251, 302-3, 329, 347, 374, 419, 458, 462, 469, 495, 574, 683, 700, 797, 742, 748, 807, 840, 896, 947, 1057, 1071, 1228, 1315; biographical note, 59n; requests staff for collecting news, 248; authorised to appoint newswriter, 349; his salary, 1111; resigns his post, 1443, 1466, 1517; permitted to return to Calcutta, 1554
- Muhammad Husain Khān, Saiyid, brother of Muhammad Rīzā Khān, his death, 897, 901
- Muhammad Begam, daughter of Shāh 'Ālam, 835
- Muhammad Ibrāhīm, 847
- Muhammad Iraj Khān, Nawab, son of Akbar Qulī Khān, Governor of Bhagalpur, 481; biographical note, 335n
- Muhammad Ismā'īl Beg Khān, *see* Ismā'īl Beg Khān, Mirzā
- Muhammad Ja'far, servant of Shāh 'Ālam, 418, 421
- Muhammad Ja'far, Mirzā, son of Muhammad Karīm Khān, 92, 95

- Muhammad Kāghā Khān, Mirzā, *Faujdar* of Hooghly (1765-67 A.D.), 21, 92-3, 95-6
- Muhammad Khān, brother of Shujjan Khān, 763-4
- Muhammad Khān Bangash, Nawab Rohilla Chief, biographical note, 491*n*.
- Muhammad Munavvar Khān, Nawab, son of Nawab Muhammad 'Alī of Arcot, his death, 337, 399
- Muhammad Murād Mirza, 1459
- Muhammad Rabbī, *Munkhvi*, 939, 1327
- Muhammad Rajab, *vakil* of Teshu Lama, 978, 1038-9 : *dastak* granted to, 1086
- Muhammad Rizi Khān, Nawab, *Nāib Nāzim* of Bengal, 73, 126, 191, 327, 416, 446, 521, 543, 629, 731-2, 783, 796, 826, 1213, 1249, 1291, 1389, 1497, 1544; his salary, 22, 221 : proposes price control of grain, 158 : sends ice, 181, 194, 1009, 1021, presents, 405, fruits, 1106, 1115, 1238, 1243; requests permission for Dr Glass to accompany his son to Rajmahal, 519 : requests payment of his allowance, 894 : death of his brother, 897, 901 : memorandum on landed property, 1008 : his stipend, 1167, 1105, 1234, 1252, 1497 : appointment of Mr Horington notified to, 1349 : his proposals for improving the *ṭijir* system, 1325, 1379, 1499; biographical note in vol. VII
- , *Nāib* of, *see* 'Ainu'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān
- , *vakil* of, *see* Hikmat Maab Khān
- Muhammad Sa'id, *Hājī*, sailor, goes to Calcutta, 1522
- Muhammad Sa'idū, dacoit, 981
- Muhammad Ṣāliḥ Khān, Saiyid, son-in-law of Nawab Rūḥu'd-Dīn Husain Khān, 439*n*
- Muhammad Sanā, 999
- Muhammad Shāh, Mughal Emperor (1719-48 A.D.), 617
- Muhammad Sher 'Alī, *Ghāzī*, 981
- Muhammad Shikeb, *Shaikh*, *vakil* of 'Umdat'u-Nisā Bahū Begam, 83, 607, 1049
- Muhammad Wali, *vakil* of Teshu Lama 978, 1038-9; *dastak* granted to, 1086.
- Muhammad Wilāyat Khān, 15
- Muhammad Zamān Khān, Zamindar of Birbhum, sends *nāgr*, 1429, 1488
- Muharram* (A. first month of the Muhammadan lunar year), 738, note, 135*n*
- Mubass'il* (A. collector of revenue, tax-gatherer), 441
- Mu'īn-ul-Mulk, eldest son of Nawab Muhammad 'Alī of Arcot, 1185, 1192
- Muje Lal, *munkhī* of Nawab Faizullah Khān, requests restoration of his *jāgīr*, 1255, 1377
- Mukand Narayan, Zamindar of *pargana* Bijni, requests help in recovering his inheritance, 672
- , his *gumāshṭa*, *see* Nando Lal
- Mukant Ram, *vakil* of Rupnarain Deo, 371
- Mukarrama Bāno Begam, *alias* Kālī Begam, sister of Nawab Nizām 'Alī Khān, 458
- Mukarramu'd-Daulah*, title of Akbar 'Alī Khān, q.v.
- Mukhtiyārī* (P. being invested with full powers), 234, 255
- Mulchand, Babu, 1333, 1360
- Mul Chand Dube, *gumāshṭa* of Arjunji Nathji at Calcutta, 390

Mulran, city and district in the Panjāb
note, 394n

Mumtāzu'd-Daulah (A. eminent per-
sonage of the empire), title of
Jonathan Duncan, q.v.

Mumtāzu'l-Umara, Imtiāz'ud-Daulah,
nephew of Nawab Nizām 'Alī
Khān, 968, 1226 ; biographical note
458n ; his alliance with Shams-ul-
Mulk, 1928

Munawwar Khān, Nawab of Kurmol
(1752-1792 A. D.), 762, 1928

Mungra, *pargana* in Jampur District,
United Provinces, 441 ; distur-
bances at, 1583

Munir 'Alī Khān, Mīr, *khawās*, 425,
428

Muniru'd-Daulah, Nawab, *Nāib Vazīr*
and minister of Shāh 'Ālam, 1911,
1441, 1463 ; his *jāgīr*, 957

Muniru'd-Daulah II, title of Shujā,
Qulī Khān, q.v.

Munne Ram, *gumāstha* of Muvohar
Das, 716

Munni Begam, wife of Mīr Jāfir,
Nawab of Bengal, 74, 219, 292, 333,
362, 794, 733, 853, 879, 927, 1249
1352, 1381, 1439, 1437, 1464,
1536-7, 1581 ; requests restoration
of her *mushāhara*, 560 ; sends
present, 715, 743, 818 ; offers con-
gratulations on recovery of King
George III, 1276 ; her inability to
send ice, 1287, 1294 ; appointment
of Mr Harington notified to, 1340 ;
proposal to give party to celebrate
the recovery of King George III,
1465, declined, 1479 ; sends pre-
sents for Commodore Cornwallis
1467, 1492 ; biographical note in
vol. VII.

—————, *Diwān* of, see Manik
Chand, Rai.

—————, *wakīl* of, see Nāsir

Muhammad Khān.

Munro, Sir Hector, biographical note,
357n

Munshi (A. writer, secretary, inter-
preter or teacher of Persian or
Urdu), 136

Muqarrar (P. relating to what is
fixed. As a revenue term it is ap-
plied to a tenure held at a fixed and
permanent rate of rent when pay-
able to a proprietor or revenue when
payable to the government), 535,
615, 834

Muqarrarīdār (P. a holder of
muqarrar farm or tenure), 335.

Muradbagh, old place in Murshid-
abad, note, 1249n

Murād Beg Khān, noble man of Shāh
'Ālam's court, 764-5

Murād Shāh, King of Beldhara, note,
798n

Murādu'd-Daulah, nephew of Nawab
Sirāj'ud-Daulah, biographical note,
358n ; requests restoration of *langar-
khāna* allowance, 410 ; imprisoned
by Nawab Miran, 299, 1327

Murādu'd-Daulah, *wakīl* of, see Luff
'Alī, Mirzā

Murar Mahadeo, see Murar Pandit.

Murar Pandit, *Faujdar* of Belasore,
466, 1976 ; complains against the
Zamindars of *Qilā* Mayurbhanj, 306

Murar Rao, see Murar Pandit

Murlihar Rao, banker, 1186

Murshidabad, town and district in
Bengal, formerly capital of the
province, 95, 113, 151, 172, 300,
323, 341, 369, 384, 396, 560, 577,
1249, 1459 ; bridges and embank-
ments at, 23 ; scarcity of grains
at, 124-5, 158 ; tolls and duties on
grains suspended at, 129 ; abolition
of Custom House at, 486, 548

—————, see

- addresses in favour of Mr Hastings, 588
- , shroffs of, their petition for establishing a mint, 1137
- Murshid Quli Khān, Nawab of Bengal (1704-25 A. D.), 412
- Murtazā 'Alī, cousin and son-in-law of Prophet Muḥammad and the fourth Caliph of Islam, 1169
- Murtazā Khān, Nawab Mir, *alias* Mir Saīdā, son of Nawab Mīrān biographical note, 1552n.
- Murtazanagar, Muhammadan name of Guntur, q.v.
- Muscat, town on south-east coast of Arabia, 1031 ; salt produced at, 1215
- Mushāhara (A. salary, allowance. In Bengal, a monthly allowance granted to revenue payers and zamindars for collecting the revenue ; a monthly allowance paid to zamindars from the proceeds of their estates when deprived of the management of them on their own behalf), 436, 472, 535
- Mushir'u'l-Mulk, A'zam'u'l-Umarā, Muḥi'u'd-Daulah, Nawab, Chief, Minister of Nawab Nizām 'Alī Khān, 59, 329, 347, 458-9, 968, 1057, 1071, 1450, 1503 ; to receive Capt. Kennaway, 748 ; his charge against Saif Jang, 833 ; opposed by Intiāz'u'd-Daulah, 1028, wounded, 1315 ; sword presented to, 1518 ; biographical note in vol. VII.
- Musk, 449
- Muskets, for Ran Bahadur Sah, 695 ; for Nawab Vazir, 1491, 1558, 1568, 1572
- Mustafa Khān, Mīr, 441.
- Mustafanagar, Muhammadan name of Kondapalli, town and hill-fortress in Kistna District, Madras, 1273, 1275 ; note, 949n
- Mustahfiz* (A. guard, watchman, protector), 89, 1003
- Musta'id Jang* (P. prompt in war) title of Faizullah Khān, Nawab, q.v.
- Mustājir* (A. farmer, renter, one who holds land under a proprietor ; also former of revenue appointed to make collections on the part of a zamindar ; one who takes *ajir*), 1326-1379
- Mutasaddi* (A. writer, accountant) 6, 340, 833
- Muttra, city and district in Agra Division, United Provinces, 561, 571 ; Mahadaji Sindhia at, 624
- Muzaffar Bakhṡ, Mirzā, son of Prince Jahāndār Shāh, 816, 1179 ; supervision and upbringing of, 663 ; deserts Qutlaq Sultān Begam, 779, 876 ; his grievances against Qutlaq Sultān, 780-1 ; his residence with Nawab Akbar 'Alī Khān, 835 ; inveigled by Akbar 'Alī Khān, 924
- Muzaffar Jang* (P. conqueror in war), title of Diler Himmat Khān, Nawab of Farrukhabad and Muḥammad Rizā Khān, Nawab, q.v.
- Muzaffar Khān Sadozai, Nawab *sābadār* of Multan, commanded by Timūr Shāh to collect grain and chintz, 894 ; biographical note, 894n
- Mymensingh, town and district in Bengal, 902, 963
- , inhabitants of, their addresses in favour of Mr Hastings, 902
- , Zamindar of, 1341
- Naba Krishna, Deb Raja (1732-97 A.D.), 471 ; appointed *sazāwal*

- at Burdwan, 402 ; biographical note in vol. VII
- Nabī Khān, 981
- Nadia, town and district in Bengal, 505, 801
- , Collector of, *see* Redfearn, F
- , Zamindar of, *see* Iswar Chand ; Sheo Chand
- Nafāsatū'n-Nisā Begam, *alias* Manjili Begam, sister of Nawab Mīr Jāfar, 1247 ; account of the *tanẖwāh*, 1222
- Nagarkot, in district Kotah, 1164
- Nagaur, historic town in Jodhpur State, Rajputana, note, 1579*n*
- Nagin Das, *gumāshta* of Bhawani Das Sahu at Bombay, 496
- Nagpur, town and district in Central Provinces, 63, 66, 160, 230, 407, 423, 929 ; George Forster at, 508 ; fire at, 575
- Nahan, capital of Sirmur State in the Punjab, 233
- , Raja of, his pilgrimage, 233
- Nāib (A. deputy, assistant), 36, 164, 340
- Nāib Nāẓim (A. deputy of the Nāẓim, deputy governor), 688
- Najābat Khān, 255
- Najāgarh, town in Delhi Province, 445
- Najaf Khān, Mirzā, Nawab Zulfa-qāru'd-Daulah, 214, 244, 753-4 biographical note in vol. VII.
- Najaf Qulī Khān, 275, 334, 445 ; biographical note, 234*n* ; at Gokalgarh, 255 ; deserted by his troops, 617 ; negotiations with Ismā'il Beg, 925
- Najāb Khān, Rohilla, better known as Najīhu'd-Daulah, 756 ; biographical note, 138*n*
- Najābs (A. lit. 'noble' ; irregular troops), note, 524*n*
- Najāb paltan, 764.
- Najābu'd-Daulah (A. hero of the state), title of Ġulām Qādir Khān, q.v.
- Najmu'd-Daulah, Nawab of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa (1765-66 A. D.), 560
- Najmu'l Mulk, title of Ġulām Haider Khān, Saif Jang, q.v.
- Nāẓmā (P. captain of a ship), 4 1013
- Na'bandi (lit. horse-shoe money ; a light tribute exacted under Muhammadan rule, on the plea of keeping up the cavalry of the state, or preventing the horse-men from devastating the country), 1157
- Naldi, *pargana* in Bhushna zamindari of Rajshahi, 535 ; sale of, 563 ;
- Namah-ḥarām (P. untrue to salt, ungrateful, unfaithful, perfidious disloyal), 1028
- Nana Farnavis, also known as Balaji Pandit, 220, 267, 279, 373, 388, 707, 782, 1124, 1225, 1477 ; his secret correspondence with Nizām 59 ; sends present, 203, 1556, 1559 ; receives presents from Governor-General, 386, 911, 1345
- Nanakmata, village and *pargana* in Nainital District, United Provinces, 1164, note, 1164*n*
- Nanamau, village in Cawnpore District, note, 295*n*
- Nanda Kamar, *Dhūcān* of Raja Tej Chand, 677
- Nandaw, King of Pegu, 43, 77, 794, 802 ; trade relations with, 41 ; note, 41*n* ; asked to clear off his debts, 1439
- Nandi Ray, servant of Muḥammad Iraj Khān, 335

- Nando Lal, *grandson* of Mahend Narayan, 672
- Nānkār (P. an assignment of land for subsistence), 1098
- Nāqdī (P. retainers who receive their salary in cash), 472
- Nāqīb (A. a servant or herald whose business it is to proclaim the titles of his master and to introduce those who pay their respects to him ; an adjutant, or aide-de-camp), 255
- Narayanpur, village in Benares District, United Provinces, 441
- Narbada River, 234, 1441
- Narinda, well known quarter of the Dacca city, 688
- Narwan, *pargana* in Benares District, United Provinces, 164, 340
- Nāṣir Jung, Nawab, note, 59n
- Nāṣir Khān Baluch, biographical note, 322n
- Nāṣir Muḥammad Khān, *wakīl* of Mumtā Begam, 219, 743, 818, 1352, 1437, 1465 ; leave granted to, 870
- Nāṣir'u-Dīn 'Alī Khān, eldest son of Nawab 'Alī Ibrāhīm Khān, his marriage, 1253, 1314 ; sends *nazr*, 1254, 1428 ; his *nazr* declined, 1323 ; receives *khil'at*, 1427
- Nāṣir'u-Dīn Muḥammad Jahān Shāh, title under which Bedār Bakht ascended the Imperial throne, 628
- Nāṣir'u-Mulk (A. helper of the empire), title of Babar 'Alī Khān q.v.
- Naṣrullah, Saiyid, *wakīl* of Nawab 'Alī 'Azīm Khān, 1210
- Nauroz (P. New Year's Day), celebration at Hyderabad, 329, 45
- Nawabganj, disturbances at, 1482, 1531
- Nawab Nāṣir, *see* Muzṣār 'Alī Khān
- Nawab Vazir, *see* Āṣaf'uḍ-Daulah, Nawab Vazir of Oudh
- Nawara, note, 737n
- Nayars, dominant caste on Malabar Coast, 462
- Nāṣim (A. an administrator, a governor, a viceroy), 412
- Nazir Deo, appellation given to the hereditary Commander-in-Chief of Cooh Behar who belonged to a collateral branch of the Royal family, *see* Khagendra Narayan
- Nazr or Nazrana (P. ceremonial present or gift generally from an inferior to a superior), 10, 148, 155, 329
- Nazrana Kochahūrī (P. fees etc. received from courts), 23, 36
- Nepal, state on northern frontier of India, 7, 285, 332, 448, 723, 1589 ; measures to encourage traffic with, 1356, 1366
- , *Dīwān* of, *see* Bahadur Sah
- , Raja of, *see* Ran Bahadur Sah
- News, 275, 459, 500, 894, 921, from Benares, 233-4, 334, 473, Delhi, 255, 275, 445, 617, 628, 763-5, 795, Ghulām Qādir's camp, 255, Hyderabad, 59, 182, 248-9, 251, 302-3, 329, 458-9, 575, 782, 833, 900, 968, 1028, 1225-6, 1450, Kabul 797, 964, Resident at Lucknow, 524, Rewari, 255, Sindhis's camp, 255, 1098, Tipū Sulṭān, 1570
- Niābat (A. office of a *nāib* or deputy), 436, 690
- Niāz 'Alī Khān, 925
- Nigambodh Ghat, Delhi, note, 763n
- Nili Chhatrī, tomb of Naubat Khān at Delhi, note, 764n
- Nimai Charan Mallik, son of Nayan Chand Mallik, biographical note, 851n

- Nīmāṣīn* (P. an upper robe or jacket with half sleeves, often made of gold and silver thread, 422)
- Nimbalpur, Māhārāṣṭra, near Ulhā of Hyderabad, 107
- Nimn Mālik, see Nīmān Chavān Mālik
- Nimn Rāj, a title of Zamindar of Nādiā, reports the death of Rāj. Sheo Chand, 505
- Nirmāl, taluk, town and fortress in Adilabad District, Hyderabad State, 302, 495
- Nizām 'Alī Khān, Nawab, *Rustam-i Daurān*, Ruler of Hyderabad (1761-1803 A. D.), 247, 302-3, 329, 347, 419, 458-9, 599, 574, 797, 748, 7601, 807, 833, 849, 896, 914-15, 949, 967-8, 992, 1018, 1031-2, 1037, 1126, 1185, 1192, 1226, 1228, 1243, 1273, 1315, 1450, 1470 ; sends presents to Tipū, 59, 1028 ; sends envoy to Tipū 182 ; goes for a hunting, 248 ; returns, 251 ; Capt. Kennaway deputed to, 335, 374 ; restoration of Guntur demanded from, 375, 769-1 ; sends troops to chastise Mamohan Rao Pangolia, 402 ; title of *Rustam-i-Daurān* conferred by Shāh 'Alam on, 469 ; construction of new edifices by, 495 ; interviewed by Capt. Kennaway, 700 ; gold watch presented to, 750 ; surrenders Guntur, 758, 762, 806, 839 ; asked to march with Peshwa against Tipū, 782 , deposes Mīr Abū'l Qāsim to Calcutta, 993-4, 1003 ; sends his portrait, 1096 ; appoints Ghulām Saiyid Khān his *Dīwān*, 1266 ; treaty with 1272 ; adjustment of accounts with the Company, 1279-81 ; expenses chargeable for the supply of armed force to, 1433 ; congratulates King George III on recovery, 1502
- Nizāmat* (A. office of the *Nāẓim* or Governor, 107, 155, 170, 183, 333-4; 389)
- Nizāmat 'Aẓẓam* (P. the chief criminal court, or court of the *Nizām*, established originally at Mirshikābal in 1772, but finally removed to Calcutta in 1780), 111
- Nizāmud-Dīn, Shāh, agent of Sindhiā at the Royal Court, 255, 275, 1002
- Nizāṭ* (P. a suspense account), 27, 39
- Nobkrishan, Raja, see Naba Krishna, Deb Raja.
- Nosbenarah* (ship), 1439
- Nūr Khān, 763 ; asked to check the Rohillas, 764 ; confined, 925
- Nūr Muḥammad Khān, *Dīwān* of Timūr Shāh, 1451 ; biographical note, 1354n
- Nuṣrat Jang* (P. victorious in war), title of Saiyid 'Alī Khān, q.v.
- Opium, 1337 ; from Bihār, Bengal and Benares, 1301, 1378
- Orissa, 453, 433, 482
- Pachothara* (S. a duty on inland traffic a custom or toll house), 33, 129
- Padam Singh, appointed to punish Mamohan Rao Pangolia, 249
- Pagan, Mr———, 1507
- Pagarla, village, 203
- Pagoda, (a coin generally of gold, current in South India, so called because of the figure of a temple which some of them bore), 1433
- Pahar* (H. a division of time, a watch or period of three hours), 1571
- Pahar Singh, Thakur, 233.
- Pahlwan Singh, Babu, *ta'lluqlār* of Majhwar, 1403
- Pāikār* (H. agent, broker), 740
- Paithan, town in Aurangabad District, Hyderabad, 1450
- Pālmī* (H. a palanquin), 155
- Palmer, Major, W., Resident at

- Larkrow, 69, 128, 224, 244, 425.
 445, 702, 707, 845, 875, 889, 893,
 919, 948, 1056, 1145, 1148-9, 1154,
 1178, 1262, 1342, 1366-1, 1432 ;
 appointed Resident with Shakhis,
 57, 126 ; appointed as His Majesty's
 Court 201 ; residence Agni, 571
Paḥār (H. a boat of burthen, of
 from 15 to 20 tons, employed for
 carrying goods, 981
Pān (H. betel-leaf, 630
Paṇāhullāh, dāst, 951
Pandit Pandit, see Madhav Rao
 Narayan Peshwa
Pandri (also called Pānari), small
 village in Mirzapur District, United
 Provinces, 441
Panā salt, salt prepared by boiling,
 656
Pand (Beng. a boat, note, 903n
Pandā, *pargana* in Shahabad, Bihar
Pandā, *Ram*, Lā, 1351
Panditān (S. an ascetic of the
 highest order, a religious man who
 has subdued all his senses by ab-
 stract meditation) ; an appellation of
 Puranpuri Gosain, q.v.
Pargana (P. subdivision of a district),
 13, 171, 208, 249, 371
Parvāna (P. order, letter from a man in
 power to a dependant), 61, 176,
 255, 371, 393, 726
Patarwa, village in *pargana* Sheopur,
 granted to Swami Shivanand, 1186
Pato-pur, *pargana* in Midnapore Dis-
 trict, Bengal, 477, 1420, 1506
Patel Sahib, see Mahadaji Sindhia
Patgram, *chakla* in Rangpur District,
 Bengal, 1229, 1286
Patharia, village and *pargana* in
 Sylhet, *khedas* at, 389
Patna (also called Azimabad), capital
 of Bihar Province, 6, 108, 158, 401,
 434, 1048 ; Thomas Law at, 397 ;
 abolition of custom house at, 486
 —————, Judge and Magis-
 trate of, see Grand G. F.
Patni Mal, Munshi, *cahil* of Babu
 Anson Singh, 232 ; deputed to Cal-
 ccutta, 435 ; his death, 1324
Pattā (H. a deed, commonly a title
 deed to land ; deed of lease), 616
Patthargarh, fort built by Najibud-
 Daulah, one mile east of Najibabad,
 833
Payanghar, Carnatic (Lit. below the
ghāts or passes), low country east of
 Mysore State, 575, 853, 1192, 1272
Pegu, town and district in Lower
 Burma, 4, 892
 —————King of, see Nandaw
 —————, minister of, see Ming
 Maha Siha Sarch ; Mili Krishna
 Palwee, Lā, Biographical note, 142n
Pawana, capital of the North West
 Frontier Province, 894 ; Thaur
 Shāh's intention to go to, 798 ;
 note, 798n
Peshkār (P. Deputy, clerk of the
 court), 978
Peshkash (P. offering or tribute paid
 to a superior man or to the govern-
 ment), 6, 42, 153, 240, 358, 427,
 440
Peshwa, the, see Madhav Rao Narayan
 Peshwa
Phāgun (H. 11th Hindu solar month
 corresponding to Feb.-Mar.), 204,
 238, 289
Phulpur, town and *pargana* in Allah-
 abad District, 590
Piāda (P. peon, footman), 765
Pindaris, freebooters, note, 233n
Pinjra, zamindari of, 1208, 1264 ;
 see also Dinajpur
Pondicherry, principal French settle-
 ment on Coromandel Coast, Madras,
 59, 248, 251, 707, 1570

- , Governor of, 59, 1570
- Poona, town and cantonment in Poona District, Bombay, capital of the Peshwas, 249, 303, 458, 575, 707, 782, 1477
- Poidār (H. treasurer, money-changer ; weigher and assayer of coins), 255
- Pott, Robert Percival, Resident at Murshidabad (1787 A. D.), 83, 221, 804, 1167, 1195, 1234, 1249, 1252, 1497, 1564
- Pran Datt, contractor of the Company's salt in Orissa, requests modification of rates, 456 ; asked to supply salt at Calcutta, 482
- Prannath Pandit, 929
- Prasanna Chand, son of Udey Chand Sahu, 145
- Pratap Singh, Maharaja Sawai, Ruler of Jaipur (1778-1803 A. D.), 233, 244, 331, 350, 441, 438, 517, 617, 774, 791, 834, 904, 937, 1002, 1022, 1027, 1070, 1073, 1135, 1169, 1199, 1438, 1548, 1565, 1580 ; intrigues against Najaf Qulī Khān, 234 ; with King at Rewari, 255 ; and Shāh 'Ālam, 80, 275, 382, 403 ; his marriage, 453 ; receives wedding presents, 1062 ; sends horses, 1578
- , Rao, Raja of Macheri, biographical note, 445*n*
- Prince, the, *see* Jahāndār Shāh
- Puniā (H. day on which the rent or revenue for the ensuing year is first settled, or on which the first instalment is paid), 555, 676, 697
- Puran Chand, Babu, *gumāshṭa* of Maharaja Udwant Chand, 1495, *dastak* granted to, 1510
- Purangir Gosain, goes to Tibet, 1569 ; biographical note, 1569*n*
- Puranpuri Gosain, 7, 286, 288
- Puri, town in Puri District, Orissa, 142
- Purnea, town and district in Bihar, 158, 412, 829
- , Collector of, 1597
- Purshūt* (S. family priest, one who conducts the domestic ceremonies of a tribe, a house-hold or family ; in the South of India it is also applied to the village priest and astrologer), 331
- Para-shottampur, village in *pargana* Kasijora, Midnapore, 142
- Purubhag, *chakla* in Rangpur, 1229, 1256
- Pūs* (H. 9th Hindu solar month corresponding to Dec-Jan.), 158, 298
- Qabā* (P. a long gown with the skirt and breast open ; a garment, a tunic), 971
- Qabūliat* (A. acceptance, assent, approbation, a written agreement to pay rent etc., the counterpart of a lease, 13, 1249
- Qādir 'Alī Khān, Raja of Kharakpur, allegations against, 371
- Qādir Khān Karora, his dismissal, 249 ; his imprisonment, 393 ; note, 303*n*
- Qadam Rasul, a place in Murshidabad, 1249
- Qalamdān* (P. pen-case, pen and ink-case, the ensign of the Vazirship), 1450
- Qalander Beg, *Dārogha*, 255
- Qamaru'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān, his death, 25
- Qandahārī Khān, wounded, 255
- Qānūngo* (P. expounder of laws, applied specially to village and district revenue officers), 171, 179, 711
- Qārī* (A. reader, specially of the *Qur'ān*), 1459
- Qāsīd* (A. a messenger, courier), 197 322

- Qāzī* (A. a judge under Mughal rule), 164, 1240
- Qāzī-i-Qāzī* (A. Chief Judge), 197, 264
- Qāzī-i-J. Commandant of a fort*, 222, 227, 324, 743
- Qāzī* (A. settlement), 173, 199, 311, 315, 331
- Qāstāndī* (P. settlement of yearly land-revenue paid by instalments which fall due at different periods in different parts of the country), 311, 322, 335
- Qudsīyah* Bagh, Delhi, 763-5 ; note, 763*n*
- Qutb-ud-Daulah*, son of Subhān Bakhsh of Masulipatam, 1453*n*
- Qutb-ud-Dīn Khān, Qilbadār* of Gooty, 748 ; starts hostilities in Kurnool, 707 ; biographical note, 707*n*
- Qutb-ud-Dīn Khān*, Maulavi, *Dāroghah* of Farrukh 'Alī at Darbhanga, 111
- Qutub Saif-ud-Begum*, wife of Prince Jalandar Shāh, 503-4, 523, 545, 595, 610, 657, 663, 684, 686-7, 703, 738, 770-7, 780-1, 816, 878, 889, 899, 925, 935, 982, 991, 1006, 1125, 1127, 1179, 1191, 1200-1, 1239, 1403-5, 1418, 1468, 1528 ; biographical note, 470*n* ; reports her husband's death, 470 ; cuts off her hair, 473 ; condoled, 476 ; her unwillingness to go to Delhi, 501, 510-11, 528, 534, 547, 568, 618, 632 ; Deputes Mir Mazhar 'Alī to Calcutta, 504 ; her allowance, 614, 779, 1168 ; solicits Governor-General's protection, 642 ; complains against Mirzā Hādī, 685 ; her strained relation with Jahanābādī Begum, 718 ; her difficulties, 728, 1929 ; her grievances against Nawab Akbar 'Alī Khān, 752, 924 ; request change of residence, 835 ; requests construction of mausoleum over her husband's grave, 893 ; requests restoration of Muhammad Akbar Khān's allowance, 854 ; appreciates the services of Mir Durrān, 863 ; Deputes Mirzā Hādī Bakhsh to Calcutta, 573 ; her present of coach declined, 576 ; sends *khil'at* to Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, 890, 971, 983 ; sends presents to Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, 1114 ; requests Governor-General's support for Mu'azzam Shāh, 925, 1035, 1129 ; receives *nazr* from Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, 1305, 1380 ; her son's marriage, 1402, 1415, 1448-9, 1549 ; offers congratulations on the occasion of recovery of King George III, 1413, 1423, 1469
- Rabi' I, II* (A. 3rd and 4th months of the lunar year), 145, 182, 197, 321
- Rabīrullah, *Mahajan*, 951
- Radha Charan Shaw, 539
- Radha Nath, *Maharaja* of Dinajpur, 33, 236, 311, 376, 393, 558, 972, 1043 ; sends *nazr*, 555, 1264, declined, 558, 1293, 1545 ; sends address in favour of Hastings, 587 ; asked to send his private seal, 592 ; requests dismissal of Ram Kanta, 1299
- , mother of, see Saraswati, Maharani
- , *vakil* of, see Sadanand Ray
- Radha Ram, Chief of Sheopur, presents *nazr* to King, 255
- Raghujī Bhonsla, Raja of Nagpur, 503, 553-9, 703, 784, 828, 834, 910, 929, 949, 961, 975, 1039, 1147, 1212, 1243 ; biographical note, 508*n* ; condoled on death of his father, 515, brother, 1540 ; succeeds

Mudloji Bhonsla, 525 ; his disagreement with Chimnaji, 575 ; receives presents from Governor-General, 648, 1134 ; deputed Bishambhar Pandit to Calcutta, 709 ; requests recovery of money from Sukh Lal, 852 ; seeks information regarding Captain Ker's voyage's mission, 950 ; invited by the British, 1028 ; sends wheat, 1040 ; his visit to Poona, 1124, 1310 ; sends presents, 1135 ; his possession of Gurh Mandlo, 1225 ; returns to Nagpur, 1553 ; congratulation on the recovery of King George III, 1588

Raghaji Sindhia, 765, 765, 1093

Raghuasah, 1447

Rāhdār (P. one who has charge of public roads ; collector of tolls or transit duties), 61, 163, 239, 345, 360, 591

Rāhdārī duties, import or transit duties, 66

Rahmotganj, granted to the ancestors of Ishiq 'Ali Khān, 1393

Raichur, town and taluk on the Krishna Tungabhadra Doab in Hyderabad State, 251, 515, 745 ; measures taken for the defence of, 249

Rajji Patel, Sindhia's Captain, 561 913

Raipur, village in Noakhali District, Eastern Bengal, 981

Rai Singh, 1428

Rāj (H. Kingdom, principality), 6, 200, 232

Rajab (A. 7th month of the lunar year), 352, 478

Rajshumshary, subdivision of Godavari District, Madras, 251, 620, 1273

Rajapur, *pargana* in *sarkār* Muhammadabad in the zamindari of Rajshahi, 13, 535

Rajaram Pandit, *Sābadār* of Orissa (1778-95 A. D.), 379, 433, 613, 650,

749, 784, 919, 945, 949, 999, 1013, 1076, 1955, 1218, 1341, 1345, 1419, 1566 ; asked to punish Mā Gaudā, 356, 497, 598 ; to prevent salt smuggling, 432 ; complaints against collector of Jalewar, 477, 957 ; construction of religion houses at Benares by, 514 ; asked to afford facilities to Mir Asif Usman, 914 ; encouraged to go to Mecca, 1918 ; captures fort of Tāpā, 1119 ; invites Miran Lal, 1214 ; to hand over fugitives from Bengal, 1506

Rājān (Beng. police, 179, 259, 289)

Rajgarh, ferry on the *Chitragarh*, near Jalewar in Balasore District, Orissa, 396

Rajmahal, also called Akbarnagar, subdivision and village in Santal Parganas District, Bihar, 449, 519, 521 ; note, 245a ; selected for Prince's residence, 248, 357, 378

—————, inhabitant of, their addresses in favour of Mr Hastings, 801

Rajnarayan Ray, *Qāṭīgā*, 842 : at Mirzapore, 239

Rajshahi, District in Bengal, 19, 472, 557, 1509

—————, Raja of, see Ram Kishan

Ramān (A. 8th month of the lunar year), 516

Ram Chaud. Pandit, to engage into arrears of revenue dues, 164, 249

Ram Deo, *panch*, 991

Ramgir Sanjayi, 1168 ; see also Mangir Chaudh

Ram Govind Mitter, *Indra*, 711, 1109

Ramji Nāth, *Naik*, 852

Ramji Patel, 331 ; arrives at Aligar 571 ; see also Rajji Patel

- Ram Kanta Ray, *Diwān* of Dinajpur 237, 272, 1208 : biographical note, 230*n*, his appointment as *vāḍ* of Raja Radha Nath objected to, 311 : requests *parāḍ* of confirmation for Radha Nath, 393 : sends *nazr* 550, 810, 1265 : ordered to prepare new seal of Mahārāja Radha Nath, 592
- Ram Kishor, Raja of Rajshahi, biographical note, 372*n* : requests *saḍ*, 538 : requests postponement of the sale of his *paḍḍas*, 563 : Zamindari of Rajshahi bestowed upon, 1300, Deputes Ganga Parshad to Calcutta, 1376, 1421 : sends *nazr*, 1457, declined, 1487
- , *vakil* of, *see* Ganga Parshad
- Ramkrishna Majumdar, *vakil* of Rani Morichamati, 1157
- Ram Kishan Tiwari, 675, 1438, 1489
- Ram Mohan, *Diwān* of, Shaikh Muḥammad Hayāt, 981
- Ramra (H. a place to walk or sport in, a park, a preserve for game), 1020, 1042
- Ram Nath, gardener, *dastak* granted to, 1338
- Ram Nath, *harkāra*, 1573
- Rampur, *tappa* in Champaran District, Bihar, 5, 6
- Rampur, state in Rohilkhand, United Provinces, 97, 962
- , Ruler of, *see* Faizullah Khān
- Ram Raja, Ruler of Travancore (1758-98 A. D.), 38, 458, 462, 575, 1570
- Ramratan Modi, 795, 921, 1092 : assaulted by Ganga Bishan, 524 : plots to dethrone Shāh 'Ālam, 571 : his house plundered, 763 : his flight to Lucknow, 1342, 1391
- , family of, 1148-9, 1154, 1170-1, 1530
- Ramru, *Kamudān*, 255
- Ram Singh, Lala, 337, 488
- Ram Singh, Rai, *vakil* of the Raja of Jaipur, 80, 332, 382, 675, 834, 904, 914, 917, 1022, 1135, 1489, 1565, 1578
- Ramtek, note, 195*n*
- Rānā Khān, Sindhiā's general, biographical note, 255*n*, 334, 516 795, 1098, 1149 : his victory over Ismā'il Beg, 561 : attacks Delhi fort, 797, 833 : Ghulām Qādir negotiates with, 925, 1028
- Ran Bahadur Sah, Gurkha Raja of Nepal, 5-7, 53, 75, 285-8, 448, 540, 723, 1366, 1507 : exchange of presents with 'Alī Ibrāhīm Khān, 449, 1356 : Lhasa campaign, 599, 609, 977, 1068, 1092 : receives musket from Governor-General, 695 : his marriage, 1386 : receives *khil'at*, 1440 : presents for, 1446, 1589
- Ran Bahadur Sah, Gurkha Raja of Nepal, *Diwān* of, *see* Bahadur Sah
- , *vakil* of, *see* Dinanath Upaddhaya
- Rangamati, Village in Goalpara District, Assam, 179, 672
- , *Qānāngo* of, *see* Bul Chand
- Rangoon, capital of Burma, 4, 43 : note, 41*n*
- Rangpur, town and district in Eastern Bengal, 146, 179, 200, 569, 980
- , Collector of, *see* McDowall, D. H.
- , inhabitants of, their addresses in favour of Mr Hastings, 1010
- Rangyiah, *Nākhuda*, 1439
- Rani Bhawani, widow of Raja Ram

- Kanta of Nator, 535: her allowance, 13: relinquishes her zamindari in favour of Ram Kishan, 372: biographical note in vol. VII
- Ranjitgir, *Qiladar* of Jaitgarh, surrenders, 255
- Ranjit Mal, Raja of Bhatgaon, 75
- Ranjit Singh Jat, Raja of Bharatpur, 255, 275, 516, 1149: his enmity towards Ismā'il Beg, 234, 334: at Muttra, 571: his disagreement with Sindhia, 617
- Ranmast Khān, see Munavvar Khān
- Rao Raja of Masherī, see Pratap Singh
- Rarh, ancient name of western portion of Bengal, 158; note, 125*n*
- Rari, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
- Ratan Lal, Rai, 234
- Rath (S. a chariot, a carriage), 1184
- Rathbān (H. chariot driver), 1184
- Rathor, Rajput clan, 80
- Rattandi Kabkapur, *pargana* in Noakhali District, 981
- Raushanabad, village in *pargana* Shamsabad west, *taluk* Kaimganj, District Farrukhabad, 491
- Raushan Ray, Lala, *vakil* of Nawab Faziullah Khān, 815, 845, 928, 962, 1051, 1066, 1163, 1206, 1223, 1236, 1240, 1251, 1312, 1371, 1541
- Ravloji Sindhia, 795
- Rawāna (P. a custom-house permit) 442
- Razāī (P. a quilt, a coloured coverlet), 425, 428
- Razīnāma (P. deed of agreement or compromise, a written consent), 1160, 1256
- Redfearn, F., Collector of Nadia (1787-94 A. D.), 639, 1204, 1242, 1399
- Red Fort, fort of the city of Delhi surrounded by the Marathas 883: note, 883*n*
- Rewari, town and *taluk* in Gurgaon District, Punjab, 255; Sindhia arrives at, 244
- Rind, J. N., 226, 949, 1124, 1243; note, 159*n*; Nagpur, 195, 598, 630; leaves for Calcutta, 1134
- Riot, at Calcutta, 1535-7, 1581
- Risālū (A. troop of horse), 412
- Risālīār (P. commander of a troop of horse), 255
- Rishra, town near Serampore in Hooghly District, 536; *golās* at, 883
- Rohilla, the, note, 617*n*
- Rokanpur, zamindari of, 483, 690, 1016, 1175; note, 483*n*
- Ross, Johannes Matthias, Dutch, Governor of Chinsura, biographical note, 149*n*
- Rotton, Captain John, note, 179*n*
- Rozinālār (P. one who receives daily wages or a daily allowance), 225
- Rudarpur, village and *pargana* in Nainital District, United Provinces, 1164, 1207; note, 1164*n*
- Rudra Chand Chaudhri, brother of Shyam Chand Chaudhri, zamindar of *pargana* Mymensingh, 116
- Ruema, village granted to Rao Bhig Ram, 979
- Rūḥu'd-Dīn Ḥusain Khān, 416, 439; biographical note, 416*n*
- Rup Narayan Deo, zamindar of *pargana* Chandwa, 371, 417; biographical note, 371*n*
- , *vakil* of ee Mukant Ram
- Rup Singh, abu, nephew of Babu Jagdeo Singh, 1165; reports Jagdeo Singh's death, 494; condoled, 668; requests restoration of his zamindari, 868

- _____, *vakil* of, see Gopal Chand Chaudhary
- Rustam-Da* (P. the Sultan of his time. Rustam was the most renowned of Pan-Deh leaders, title of Nawab Nazim 'Alī Khān, p. v.
- Rustā* (A. son of Qāsim, 142, 1538
- Rustān-I-Hisābi* (P. son of a supervisor or clerk of the revenue of the Superintendent of Fāzla, 121 (5)
- Rustān-Mahār* (P. the camp, 26
- Rustān-khān* (P. son of a commissionable payable from soldier or treasurer, 39)
- Sa'ādāt 'Alī Khān, Nawab Mirā, brother of Nawab Āsif, 153-154, 52, 87, 97, 127, 281, 377, 430, 470, 476, 526, 534, 544, 1012, 1030, 1180, 1189, 1468, 1570; biographical note, 47n; requests services of an English teacher, 114; seeks Governor-General's interview, 339, 343, 988, granted, 940; his visit to Calcutta, 457, 793, 814; attends Prince Jahāndār Shāh's *chellam*, 500; his residence, 601, 606, 1231, 1279; invited to dinner, 874; his *ramla*, 1020; arrival at Benares, 1077; his *narr* declined, 1311; fruit trees etc. for, 1338; gives party to celebrate recovery of King George III, 1363, 1367, 1474
- _____, *vakil* of, see, Gokul Chand Chaudhary
- Sābit Jang* (P. firm in war, title of Ghulām Qādir Khān, q. v.
- ukh Ray, 733
- Sadanand Ray, *vakil* of Raja of Dinaipur, 311, 1208
- adasleo, 1447
- Sa'adko Ashraf, *vakil* granted to 1571
- Sa'adko, *Rasid*, 949
- Sa'adko Rao Mahon. Bhai Bakhshi, Minister of Mahadaji Shinde, 61-2, 90, 102, 147, 359, 907, 1039, 1053, 1171, 1211; receives watch from Governor-General, 121; his *pāshā*, 200, 989; requests surrender of Sir J. D. and other 1148-9; commands Sawai Shivanand Surwoti, 1189, 1447; sends his against Mr. Cherru, 1441; congratulations on the recovery of King George III, 1543
- Sa'ad, 'Alī Khān alias Nawab Miran, son of Mir Jafar, imprisoned Faizun-Nisā Begum and her son, 999, 1027
- Sa'adko, Ashraf, chief of Masulipatan, 392, 890, 1057, 1071; note, 496n
- Sa'ad, A. central chief, the chief sent of government; the presidency as opposed to the provinces or *mufasssal*, 37, 146, 200, 311
- Šadr Liwān 'Adālat*, Court of Appeals for civil cases at Calcutta, 974
- Šadr Kachahrī* (P. the principal revenue office of a district or estate, that of the collector or zamindar) 27
- Šadr Khazāna* (A. revenue of the *šadr* or headquarters), 26
- Šadr Qānūngo* (P. chief expounder of laws, applied specially to village and district revenue officers), 164
- Šadrul-Haq Khān, Nawab, 671; biographical note, 126n
- Šadrul-Nisā Begum, grandmother of Nawab Āsif'd-Daulah, 1560-1; biographical note, 1n
- Sa'dullah Khān, stationed at Shikarpur, 322

- Safar* (A. 2nd month of the lunar year), 48, 233, 321
- Safdar Jang* (P. 'breaker of the enemies' rank in war), title of Mirzā Muḥsin, q. v.
- Sahmāpur, town and district in United Provinces, 346, 795
- Sāhib Mīrā Begam, widow of Emperor Muḥammad Šāh, 325
- Sāhibgā, village in pargana Samastabad, Faizābād, 39, 491
- Sāhibgānī* (P. number of years or a period of 30 years; king who has completed 30 years of reign, 353, 425, 429, 533; note, 359n)
- Sāhib Singl, 763
- Sāhibzāde* (H. barter, money-lender), 1013
- Sa'īl Bīn Aḥmad, *Imām* of Muscat (1733-97), 1091
- Saipur, pargana in Ghazipur District, United Provinces, 1923
- Sa'idul-Mulk, see Ḥusain 'Alī Khān
- Saif Jang* (P. sword of the war), title of Ghulām Ḥaidar Khān, q. v.
- Saifud-Daulah, Nawab of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa (1766-70 A. D.), 560
- Saifu'd-Dīn Khān, 764
- Sāir* (A. tax, duty levied on personal property, land-taxes, octroi), 833
- Saiyid Aḥmad 'Alī Khān, Nawab, brother of Nawab Saiyid 'Alī Khān, 712
- Saiyid 'Alī Khān, Nawab of Dacca (1785-1822 A. D.), 392, 638, 821, 1271; his allowance, 107, 1097; reports outbreak of fire at Dacca, 352; address in favour of Mr. Hastings, 712; his salary, 737; his brother's marriage, 838, 875, 885, 887, 1033, 1128, 1245, 1260, 1283; leaves for Murshidabad, 1014; reaches Murshidabad, 1015; biographical note in vol. VII
- Sa'id Muḥammad Khān, *Hashmat Jang*, Nawab of Dacca, his allowance, 1097
- Sa'id Muḥammad Khān, *Star Jang*, *Dāragān* of the Benares mint, 26, 49, 28
- Sa'id Muḥammad alias 'Alīam Shāh, a *Wāḥid* of Hindustani-Dakh of Hindustani, 1473, 1504
- Sa'idā Khān, Governor of Etahpur 1223; biographical note, 1225
- Sa'idat (H. a present or offering on receiving a case or settling for the revenue), 311
- Salamatullah Khān, brother of Tafazzul Ḥusain Khān, *Jostab* granted to, 1509
- Sālāḥ (P. prison quarters in the Red Fort), 628
- Saig Ram, proceeds to Calcutta, 332, 1258
- Sāhib Begam, wife of Nawab Sādiq 'Alī Khān, alias Miran, and step-mother of Mir Martaza Khān, 17, 322; her *nazar* declined, 965
- Salimabad, *Pargana* in Backergunge District, Eastern Bengal, 981
- Salimgarh, fort, 795; Ghulām Qādir at, 735, note, 763n
- Salkia, suburb of Howrah city, Bengal, *golās* at, 833
- Salon, *tahsil* and ancient town in Rae-Bareilly District, United Provinces, 1531; affray at, 1527
- Salt, from Cuttack, 432; from Bala-sore, 456, 466, 749; imported from Northern Circars, 520, 536, 883; its import into Bengal disallowed, 1215
- Salṭanat* (P. dominion, empire, sovereignty, kingdom), 1530

- Saltpetre, 661, 829; 1564
- Sanbalpur, town and district in Orissa, 784, 949
- Sambhal, ancient town with ruins in Moradabad District, United Provinces, 1164
- Sambhupal, Raja, 782
- Samet Sikhar, mountain in the province of Bihar, note, 1481n, 1519
- Samrū Begam, *see* Zeb-un-Nisā Begam
- Sanad (A. diploma, patent or deed of grant by the government, of office, privilege or right), 107, 142, 208, 311, 371
- Sanāullah, dacoit, 981
- Sanavās (A. old coin current at depreciated rate after a certain number of years), 1242
- Sandoway, District in Arakan Division, Lower Burma, 43
- Santipur, trading town in Nadia District, Bengal, 801
- Santore, *pargana* in Bhushna in the District of Jessore, *see* cf., 563
- Sarabjit Singh, Babu, *wakil* of Raja Malip Narayan Singh, 27, 36, 39, 40, 67, 143, 380, 454, 954; goes to Benares, 252, 550, 572, 579, 589, at Murshidabad, 341; at Azimabad, 434; his *nazr* declined, 970
- Saran, District in Patna Division, Bihar, 273
- Saraswati, Malarani, adoptive mother of Raja Radha Nath, 376; note, 311n; requests restoration of Janki Ram as *Nāib*, 311; refuses to hand over son's seal, 592; requests dismissal of Ram Kanta, 1208
- Sarbanand Gosain, *Rajguru* of Cooch Behar, 179, 569, 1196; note, 179 n; complaint against, 1157
- Sardār* (P. chief, leader), 59
- Sardar Singh, Lala, *wakil* of Rai Banwari Lal, deputed to Calcutta, 1297
- Lala, *wakil* of Raja Madho Singh, 1368
- Saremu, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
- Sarishlu* (P. office, employment record-office, department), 37
- Sarishtadār* (P. officer who lays petitions before judicial officers and writes down orders passed on them; record keeper), 36
- Sarkār* (P. the government or the supreme administrative body of a country; tract of a territory under Muhammadan rule, corresponding to a district or division under British rule), 26, 164, 273, 343
- Sarpech* (P. ornament of gold, silver or jewels generally placed in front of the turban), 168, 170, 1450
- Sarraf* (A. money-changer; banker), 458
- Sasaram, town and *pargana* in Shahabad District, Bihar, 406, 440; proposed for Prince's stay during monsoon, 378
- , Collector of, 378
- Satara, town and district in Bombay Presidency, 1028
- Sauchitanand, 1447
- Sanda Mal, Lala, 716
- Sāwan* (H. 4th Hindu solar month corresponding to Jul.-Aug.), 577, 620, 639
- Sazāwal* (P. agent appointed by a land-owner or lessor to compel payment of rent by tenants or leaseholders; Indian collector of revenue), 402, 672
- Sazāwalā* (P. the office or business of a *sazāwal*), 474
- Seringapatam, island and town in Mysore, capital of Tipu Sultan

- with his palace and tomb, 182,
249, 458, 782, 1225
- Sewak Ram. Lala, *wakil* of the Peshwa
at Calcutta, 202, 278, 373, 385,
409, 1176, 1477-8, 1559
- Shābān* (A. 8th month of the lunar
year), 422, 456
- Shahabad, District in Patna Divi-
sion, Bihar, 225
- Shāh 'Ālam, Mughal Emperor (1759-
1806 A. D.), 37, 42, *passim*; at
Rewari, 233-4, 255, 275; asks
Nawab Vazir for money, 242;
seeks English assistance against
rebels, 244, refused, 269; commands
Vazir to see him at Gahmuktesar,
330; completes 30th year of reign,
350; sends clothes to Vazir, 430;
condoled on death of Jahāndār
Shāh, 475; orders Jahāndār Shāh's
family to be sent back, 503-4,
510, 534, 618, 925; *nazr* offered
to, 566; deposition and confine-
ment of, 571, 624, 628, 631, 635,
734, 773, 778, 795; Sindhia to
the rescue of, 680, 693; commends
restoration of villages to Ghulām
Qādir Qānūngo, 730; released by
Rānā Khān, 797; reunion with
his sons, 1038; safe arrival at
Delhi, 1046; Timur Shāh's sym-
pathy for, 986; commends Mir
'Alī Bakḥsh, 998; orders Sital Das
and sons of Ramratan Modi to
be secured, 1148-9, 1154, 1170
- , sister of, her conspiracy
to dethrone Shāh 'Ālam, 445
- NOTE.—In the Persian Correspon-
dence he is referred to as the King,
except where otherwise stated.
- Shahāmat 'Alī Khān, Nawab, *alias*
Mirzā Janglī, son of Nawab Shu-
jā'u'd-Daulah, 97
- , *wakil* of, *see* Badru'd
Dīn 'Alī Khān, Saiyid
- Shahāmat Jang, 198, 410, 999; biogra-
phical note, 198*n*; mosque and col-
lege in Motijhil built by, 132
- Shahāmat Jang, of Hyderabad, 7077
biographical note, 707*n*
- Shahbandar, *pargana* in Balasore Dis-
trict, 929, 1429, 1547
- Shah Burj, Delhi Fort, note, 617*n*
- Sital Das under surveillance in,
617
- Shahdara, town in Delhi Province
across the Jumna opposite to
Delhi city, 571
- Shahjahanabad, *see* Delhi
- Shahpur, *pargana*, 535
- Shaikh Haidar, 763; his negotia-
tions with Ismā'il Beg, 764
- Shaista Khān, Nawab of Bengal
(1664 and 1680), 171
- Shambhu Chand, Babu, *wakil* of Maha-
nand, 1174
- Shambhu Chand, Raja, brother of
Raja Sheo Chand of Nadia, his
claims to the zamindari of Nadia,
557, 1204; his allowance, 639
- , mother of, requests
restoration of her *mushāhara*, 640
- Shambhunath, Lala, servant of
the Nawab Vazir, *dastak* granted
to, 591
- Shambhunath, Lala, *gumāshta* of
Raja Bachhraj, 55, 130, 183, 277;
requests settlement of *batṭa* rates
224; requests discount on bills,
485
- Sham Kishor Acharya, Zamindar of
Alapsingh, 208; note, 208*n*
- Shamsu'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān, son of
Saiyid Badru'd-Dīn 'Alī Khān,
383
- Shamsu'd-Daulah* (A. sun of the empire)
title of Saiyid Ahmad 'Alī Khān, q.v

- Shamsu'l-Mulk* (A. sun of the country), title of Togh Jang Abul Fath Khān, q. v.
- Shamsu'd-Daulah* (A. sun of the lords), title of Abul Fath Khān, q. v.
- Shankar Puri, 1, 567; of Benares, to signify the means of entrance, 101, 340
- Shankar Singh, a son of Shaji Vishal Ram, 1217, note, 1100; deputed to Cooh Behar, 1270-2, 1430
- Shamsu'd-Din 'Alī Khān, grandson of Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula Khān, his appointment, 1207
- Shamsu'd-Din (A. son-in-law of the Emperor), 497, 500
- Shao Chuan, Raja of Nābha, 305, 600; biographical note, 500; his death, 507, 507, 507; his address in favour of Mr Hastings, 501
- Shao Chuan (Nābha), Dab, 145
- Shoganj, factory of, 620
- Shogir Gosain, 441
- Shro Lal Rai, *darshat* granted to, 113
- Shropur, town and district in Gwalior State, Central India, 255
- . Chief of, *see* Radha Ram
- Shropur, *pargana* in Benares District, United Provinces, 441, 1186, 1211
- Sher 'Alī, Saiyid, appointed *rakil* of Babu Ansan Singh, 1324
- Sher Jung* (P. lion in war), title of Saiyid Muḥammad Khān, q. v.
- Shigufta Bakht, Prince Mirzā, better known as Mirzā Hājī, eldest son of Prince Jahāndār Shāh, 705, 718, 779, 835, 925, 991, 1035, 1110, 1139, 1241, 1405; seeks Governor-General's support, 573, 644, 655, 878; supervision and upbringing of, 663; deserts Qutlaq Sultān Begam, 685, 728; proceeds to Lucknow, 686-7, 1403-4; his move to Lucknow disapproved, 724, 916; invigil by Akbar 'Alī Khān, 924; his grievances against Akbar 'Alī Khān, 935; visited by the Vazir, 990; offers congratulations on the recovery of King George III, 1248; his *mar* declined, 1311; requests equal distribution of his father's property, 1468
- Shikarpur, town in Sakkur District, Sind, 322
- Shitab Ray, Maharaja, *Nāib Dīwān* of Bihar (1767-73 A. D.), 436, 570
- Shitab Singh, son of Sahib Singh, 735
- Shivala, fortress in the city of Benares, 422, note, 422*n*
- Shivanand Saraswati, Swami, religious preceptor of Bhao Bakhshi, his villages, 1186, 1211, 1447
- Shivji Ram. *Dīwān*, his pilgrimage, 1002, 1022, 1027, 1075
- Shorapur, taluk and town in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad, Chief of, applies to Nizam for reinforcement, 707
- Shore, Sir John, 13, 276, 688, 948, 984; biographical note, 13*n*
- Short, T. V., deputed to Cooh Behar, 1286
- Shujā' Qāli Khān, Muniru'd-Daulah II, eldest son of Nawab Muniru'd-Daulah I, 262, 291, 957, 1078
- Shujjan Khān, conspires to depose Shāh 'Ālam, 524, 764
- Shukrullah Khān, 25
- Shuqqa* (A. royal letter), 68-9, 111, 242, 245, 269, 330, 348, 357
- Shutur Khān, taken prisoner, 997
- Shyam Chandra Ray, *gumāshtha* of Nazir Deo of Cooh Behar, 17

- Siam or Thailand, kingdom in the Indo-Chinese Peninsula, 1401
 ———, king of, supply of muskets refused to, 1401
Sicca, see *sikka*
Sibbudi (P. irregular soldiers employed in the services of revenue and police), 225, 1281, (5, 6)
Sikandarpur, town in Ballia District, United Provinces, 164, 340; disturbances at, 1583
Sikhs, the, 617, 908, 1164
Sikka (P. name of a weight, stamped coin), 66, 136, 861; note, 66*n*
Sikraul, civil station of Benares, note, 599*n*
Sindhia, see Mahadaji Sindhia
Singh Partab Sah, Gurkha Raja of Nepal (1771-5 A. D.), 6
Singramu, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
Sira, town in Tumkur District, Mysore, 249, 900
Sirāju'd-Daulah, Nawab of Arcot, 915; allegations against, 908
Sirāju'd-Daulah, Nawab of Bengal (1756-7 A. D.), 108, 412, 560, 999, 1327
 ———, grand-daughters of, their allowance, 1017
Sital Das, Rai, *Nāib* to Nawab Nazir, note, 617*n*; confined, 628; his flight to Lucknow, 1056, 1148, 1154, 1170-1, 1342, 1391, 1530; sent for by Shāh 'Ālam, 1149
Sivaji (or *Sobraji*) Pandit, *vakil* of Peshwa at Hyderabad, 458; reaches Poona, 782; deputed to Hyderabad, 1028
Sivaji Vithal Rao, 'Umdatul-Mulk, son of Vithal Shivdev Vinchurkar, 1258, 1499; deputed Gopinath Deo to Calcutta, 1257; deputed Shankar Rao to Calcutta, 1470, 1472
 Slave trade, abolished, 1309, 1325-6, 1379
Smith, ———, 670
Sobha, *Mussanuit*, allegations against, 126, 871
Sobha Chand, *vakil* of Mir Muḥammad Bāqir *Khān*, 144
Sobha Singh, *subadār*, 569
Som-swar Bhat, *'āmil* of Broach, 1444
Sombhadra, the, note, 598*n*
Spoke, Peter, Collector of Rajshahi and Superintendent of *Nizāma* Stipends, 13, 383, 439, 481, 607, 829, 848, 984, 1049-50, 1188, 1222, 1247, 1327, 1577, resigns, 140, 1407, 1409
Sradh (H. corruption of *Shraddha*, the offering of rice and flowers to the manes of a deceased ancestor), 331, 372, 472, 1225; note, 331*n*
Srichand Ghosh, *vakil* of Khagendra Narayan Nazir Deo, 803
Sridhar Bhat, his pilgrimage, 271
Sridhar Naik, money-lender of Nagpur, 852
Sriman, *purohit*, his pilgrimage, 1039
Sri Narayan, *mustaufi*, 690; appointed *nāib qānūngo* and *nāib zamin-dar* of Rokanpur, 483
Sristidhar, *vakil* of the Raja of Cooch Bihar, 200, 289
Stables, John, biographical note, 957*n*
Stuart, Hon. Charles, President of the Board of Revenue, 957
Sūba (P. province, viceroy under Mughal government), 6, 977
Sūbadār (P. governor of province, Indian infantry officer), 179, 289, 356, 412, 569

- Subarnarekha, the, 630; note, 949_n
Suchitanand, 1447
Suji Ram, *Dīwān*, 1081
Sukhdeo Das, *Mahant*, 142
Sukh Lal, Munshi, *vakīl* of Lala Champat Ray, 113, 841, 1184, 1334
Sukh Lal, Sahu, his debt, 852
Sukhpat Ray, 513
Sukhram. *Dīwān* of Hathras, 1092
Sulaimān Beg *Khān*, Mughal chief, note, 255_n
Sulaimān Shāh, 1091
Sulaimān Shikoh, Prince Mirzā Muḥammad, son of Shāh 'Ālam II, 631, 1262, 1365, 1416, 1529, 1585; biographical note, 617_n; accompanies *Ghulām Qādir* and Ismā'īl Beg against Sindhia, 624; his flight, 1098; reaches Bareilly, 1119, 1121, Amroha, 1120, 1122, Rampur, 1129, 1132, Almasganj, 1150; requests interview with Nawab Vazir, 1151, 1158, 1169, 1177, 1183; requested to return to Delhi, 1178, 1480; requests allowance, 1202, 1248, 1269; requests permission to stay at Lucknow, 1261; his visit declined, 1321; offers congratulations on the recovery of King George III, 1348; requests money for his journey, 1369; allowance refused to, 1395
———, *vakīl* of, see *Ghulām Muḥammad*, Maulavi
Sultān Dā'ūd, Mirzā, 35, 922, 1360; biographical note, 11_n; sends *nazr*, 11, declined, 965; offers congratulations on the recovery of King George III, 1330
Sumeswar, fort of, 6; note, 5_n
Sumergir Gosain, 441
Sunder Pandit, 36
Sunder Singh, Maharaja, *Dīwān* of Nawab Mubāraku'd-Daulah, 73, 1252
Supreme Council, 76, 171
Suraj Narayan Ray, adopted son of Lachhmi Narayan *Qānūngo*, appointed *Qānūngo* of Rokepur, 711
Surat, town and district in Bombay, 277, 390, 400, 623, 652
Surat Singh, dacoit, 981
Surkhi (P. brick-dust, pounded bricks), 976
Surkh Pallān (lit. red battalion, the imperial guards), 524, 763-4
Swaruppur, *pargana* in *sarkār* Mahmudabad in the zamindari of Rajshahi, 13
Swarup Ram, Munshi, *vakīl* of Fateh Singh, 955, 1019
Sylhet, town and district in Assam, 389; *kheda* at, 1105
Ta'ahud, *ta'hud* (A. agreement, contract, lease, engagement, a revenue lease, a farm of revenue, an engagement with the government or its representatives for the payment of the public revenue), 164, 303
Ta'alluqa (A. a district, a division of a province, an estate, applied to a tract of proprietary land usually smaller than a zamindari although sometimes including several villages), 714
Tafazzul Husain *Khan*, *vakīl* of Nawab Asafu'd-Daulah, 744, 746, 1255, 1298, 1343, 1398, 1491, 1524, 1527, 1572; biographical note, 304_n; appointed Nawab Vazir's *vakīl* at Calcutta, 364, 596; reaches Calcutta, 604; interviews Governor-General, 745
Taherpur, *pargana* in Dinajpur District, Bengal, 790
———, Zamindar of, see Anandram Chaudhri

Takṣildār (P. an Indian collector of revenue), 630
Takvildār (P. a cashier, a treasurer), 486
Takvildārī (P. the office or duty of a cash keeper, cash or collections), 323
Tāj Mahāl Begam, mother of Prince Jahāndār Shāh, 504, 510, 563, 632, 925, 982, 1125, 1405; request^s Governor-General not to allow the family of Jahāndār Shāh to move to Delhi, 503; warns Governor-General against the mischievous activities of royal court^s 634; condoled, 1146
Takiā Shāh Bāṛe. in Delhi, note, 765n
Tamluk, town and subdivision in Midnapore District, Bengal, 963
Tanjore, town and district in Madras, note, 1533n
Tankhwāh (P. draft for money, bill of exchange, an assignment by the ruling authority upon the revenue of any particular locality in payment of wages, pay, gratuity or pension), 688
Tankhwāhdār (P. a holder of an order for wages, etc. or of an assignment by the ruling authority upon the revenue of any particular locality in payment of wages, pay, gratuity or pension, or in repayment of advances, or any specified head of charge), 562
Tapassī (S. an ascetic, a devotee), 7
Tappa (H. a small tract or division of country, smaller than a *pargana*, but comprising one or more villages), 6, 1386
Tapung, fortress in Puri, Orissa, 1118

Tagāwī (A. loans made to agriculturists for seed, bullocks, or agricultural improvement), 340, 554, 616
Tarafdarī (H. the office of a *tarafdar*), 803, note, 803n
Tasbīh *Khāna*, Red Fort, Delhi, note, 617n
Ta'zia (P. a representation or mode of the tomb of Imāms Hasan and Husain, carried in procession at *Muharram* by the Indian Shi'as chiefly), 1537
Ta'ziadār (P. a person who sets up a *ta'zia* at *Muharram*), 1537
Tegh 'Alī *Khān*, zamindar of Sarna requests remission of revenue, 27
————, *vakīl* of, see Debi, Dat, Lala
Tegh Jang, title of Ab'ul Fath *Khān*, q. v.
Tej Chand, Raja of Burdwan, 34, 171, 204, 238, 284, 506, 676, 800, 827, 922, 1088, 1103, 1382, 1538; requests interview, 213, 1285; his visit to Calcutta declined, 253, 342; requests time to pay his dues, 315; guards placed over his house, 351, complains against Messrs. Kinloch and Brooke, 368, 772; requests remission of revenue, 402; requests for a new settlement of Burdwan, 472, 474; returns to Burdwan, 620, 698, 1350; requests advance for the repair of roads at Burdwan, 621, 819, refused, 860; sends *nazr*, 697, declined, 965; appointment cf.; Mr Mercer intimated t, 717; asked to submit *Ba'zi-Z* in papers-726; prepares *Ba'zi-Z* in accounts, 820; his mother's representation against him, 948; intre-

- view granted to, 1808, 1819; payment of his *gates*, 1438, 1486, 1525; Biographical note in vol. VII
- Tij Chand, *Dewan* of, *see* Nanda Kumar
- , mother of, *see* Dulan Kunwar, Rani
- , *wakil* of, *see* Bindaban, Babu
- Tilaga, M., *poet*, 240
- Tillakerry, town and port in Malabar District, Madras, 329, 353
- , *Chief* of, his *governances* against the *British* of Calcutta, 751
- Turklanda, *poet* in Parnu District, Riga, 1507
- Tulsa Lama, *Chief* Buddhist Priest of Mongolia, 1800; requests military aid, 1871; military aid refused, 1898
- , his *relatives*, *see* Muhammad Rajab; Muhammad Wali
- Thakurdwara, town in Moradabad District, United Provinces, 233
- Thakur-swa* (H. lit. the service of an idol, applied to a grant of revenue for maintaining the worship of an idol), 142
- Thalon Chaudhri, 6
- Thana* (H. police station, military post), 672
- Thunendah* (ship), 1439
- Tibet, country of Central Asia, note, 1569*n*.
- Tika* (H. a round painted spot, or a patch of gold or metal placed on the centre of the forehead as an ornament, a sectarian distinction, or a mark of high rank; conferring the *tika* upon a subordinate or feudatory chief is the privilege and indication of supremacy, 244
- Tilanga* (H. a native of Tilang ro the Carnatic from where the first Indian soldiers dressed and disciplined after the European fashion were raised, hence it came to denote a sepoy, soldier), 524, 1452
- Tilkati, village, 171
- Tilok Chand, Raja, father of Raja Tij Chand of Burdwan, 472
- Timur Shah Durāni, Ruler of Afghanistan (1773-93 A. D.), 321-2, 691, 756, 768, 819, 995, 1035-36, 1353, 1587; his march towards Multan, 894, 900, 949, 964, 1107, 1548; his interview with Ghulam Muhammad Khān, 946 and Shāh 'Ālam, 986-7; bestows *khil'at* on Lord Cornwallis, 1354-5
- , *Dewan* of, *see* Nūr Muhammad Khān
- , Minister of, *see* Faizullah Qāzi
- Timpa Zimpen, Governor of Trashichedzong, 1394
- Tipu Sultān, Ruler of Mysore (1782-99 A. D.), 38, 59, 249, 375, 458-9, 462, 495, 683, 707, 748, 751, 896, 938, 992, 1533, 1554; Nizām's envoy to, 182, 251; his letter to Nizām, 303; sends his ambassadors to France, 329; asked to approve measures taken against Chirakkal Raja, 523; reported defeat of, 574-5, 782, at Calicut, 700, 853; at Seringapatam, 807, 1225; at Coimbatore, 1450; encamped at Lal Bagh, 900; his agreement with the Peshwa, 968; receives presents from Nizām, 1028; refuses matrimonial alliance with Nizām, 1226
- Tirhut, former district of Bengal now divided into Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga in Bihar, note, 554*n*, 670

Tirhut zamindar of, *see* Madho Singh, Raja

Titsing, Isaac, Dutch Director at Chinsura (1788-91 A. D.), 21, 92, 96; biographical note in vol. VII

Topkhāna (P. artillery), 244, 561

Toshakhāna (P. a place where furniture is kept, wardrobe, store-house, store-room), 711

Trashichodzong, summer capital of Bhutan, 1394

————, Governor of, *see* Timpu Zimpen

Travancore, state in South India, 38; *see* also Malevar.

————, Raja of, *see* Ram Raja

Trengganu, state in Malay Peninsula, 272

Trincomali, in Ceylon, 457n

Tripti, near Poona, 575

Tukoji Holkar, 233, 578, 581, 1472; to reinforce Sindlia, 303; reaches Indore, 561; his engagement with the army of Raja Bijai Singh, 234, 795; requests exemption from pilgrim tax for Ahalya Bai, 1302, 1432; biographical note in vol. VII.

Tuljaram, *vakīl* of Mahābat Jang 1450

Tungabhadra, river of South India, 249n

Tunnohi, district in Nepal, 6

Turkman Gate, one of the seven gates of Delhi, Ismā'īl Beg encamped at, 764

Turra (P. an ornament worn in the turban; an ornamental tassel or border etc.; a plume of feather, a crest), 422

Twenty-four Parganas, district in Presidency Division, Bengal, 96

Ubaid *Khān*, *risāhlār*, wounded, 255

Udaipur state in Rajputana, 249

————, Rana of, *see* Bham Singh

Udayshankar Mehta, *ḍāstak* granted to, 1658.

Udwot Chand, Malārāja, 320, 789, 825, 922, 1318; biographical note, 102; sends army, 10, 1410, declined, 31, 845; offers congratulations on the accession of King George III 1495

————, *garāshīr* of, *see* Puran Chand Babu.

Ukhra, *pargana*, *see* Arkharol.

Uma Chaudhaini, widow of Anandram Chaudhri, 794

Umar *Khān*, Saipid, *Bakhshī*, 102

Umdat-ul-Mulk (A. pillar of the state), title of Sivaji Vitthal Rao, q.v.

Umdat-ul-Nisā Bālā Begam, widow of Nawab Saif-ud-Daulah, 355, 431, 1530-1; biographical note, 200; deputes Misal Lal to Calcutta, 290, her *jāgīrs*, 335, 864, 1360; her allowance, 481, 607, 848, 1649, 1222, 1242; permitted to go to Patna, 940; appointment of Mr Harington notified to, 1340

————, *vakīl* of, *see* Muhammad Shikab, *Shāikh*

Umd Singh, Raja of Kotah (1771-1819 A. D.), 674-5, 710, 1428, 1462, 1483, 1489

Umraogir Gosal, Raja, elder brother of Raja Himmat Bahadur, 628; his son, 255; biographical note, 255n

Umrao Singh, *mutawaddī* of Raja Mahip Narayan Singh, 340

Ungli, *pargana* in Jaunpur District United Provinces, 441, 1583

- Urdu-i-Mu'allā. bazar in Delhi, skirmish at, 763; note, 763n
- Uttam Chand, *wakīl* of Nawab Faizul-lab Khān, 580, 1052, 1207; his *nāz* declined, 55; his illness, 553; refutes allegations against his constituent, 1164; moves to Benares for change, 1523, 1552
- Uttam Chand, Raja, 323, 933; sends *nāz*, 16, declined, 965; reports his recovery from illness, 366
- , *wakīl* of, see Deokishan Pandit.
- Uttamgir, Kunwar, son of Umraogir Gosain, 255
- Wakīl-i-Mutlaq* (A. a plenipotentiary, a vice-regent or a representative invested with full powers), title of Ghulām Qādir Khān, q. v.
- Vansittart, George, 6, note, 6n
- Vansittart, Henry (Sr.), Governor of Bengal (1760-4 A. D.), 472, 749
- Vansittart, Henry (Jr.), 640; biographical note, 544n
- Vazir, the, see Āṣafu'd-Daulah, Nawab Vazir of Oudh
- Vaziri Mal, 1372
- Venkat Kishan, Rai, 1275
- Vir Bhan, Munshī, *wakīl* of Nawab Dil Diler Khān, 136, 847, 1083; deputed to Calcutta, 490
- Vir Narayan, Raja, Zamindar of Keoramal, appointment of his *nāib* 367, 394
- Vithal Rao, *wakīl* of Mahadaji Sindhia at Lucknow, 1316
- Vyankoji Bhonsla, his appointment as *peshkā*r to Raghuji Bhonsla, 1225; biographical note, 1225n
- Wajihullah, Munshi, *wakīl* of Nawab Diler Himmat Khān, 785, 1072, 1193-4
- Wālājāh, Nawab, see Muḥammad 'Alī Khān, Nawab of Arcot
- Wandipore, old name of Angdaphorang, q. v.
- Wāṣilat* (A. the proceeds of an estate), 896
- Wāṣil bāqī* (A. account showing the amount of the revenue realised and the balance outstanding), 164 340, 758
- Wāsiq 'Alī Khān, *Jāgīrdār* of Khursarai, Hooghly, his allowance, 138
- Waqā' Nigārī* (P. the establishment of news writers), 1281 (5).
- Wheat, for Governor-General, 48
- Wheeler, Edward, Member of Council, 957; biographical note in vol. VII
- White, C. H., biographical note, 75n
- Wilkinson, 829
- Willes, John, Collector of Sylhet, 1105
- Willis, Dr, reward for, 1343; biographical note, 1343n
- Wodsworth, W., Resident at Bala-sore (1782-91 A. D.), 306, 456 466, 482, 749, 1012; his contract for salt, 920
- Wright, Capt. John, sails for Siam 1401
- Wroughton, George, 688, 737, 981, note, 369n
- Yādgīr 'Alī Khān, his *jāgīr*, 14
- Young, ———, 142
- Young and Heatly, Messrs, opium contractors, 1301
- Yūsuf 'Alī Khān, 255
- Zābiḥah Khān, Nawab, 97, 138, 756; biographical note in vol. VII
- Zafarabad, *pargana* in Jaunpur District, United Provinces, 441
- Zafar Khān, see Muẓaffar Khān Sadozai, Nawab
- Zafaru'd-Daulah, 1450
- Zafaru'd-Daulah*, title of Ibrāhīm 'Alī Beg Dhonsa, q. v.

- Zafar Yab Khān, son of Walter Reinhardt, 795
- Zainu'd-Dīn, Zamindar of Parnaa, com-
plaints against Mr Douglas and
Diwan Bahadur Singh, 565
- Zainu'd-Dīn Aḥmad Khān, *Haibaf
Jang*, father of Nawab Sirāju'd
Daulah, note, 198*n*
- Zainu'l-Ābidin Shustari, Mīr, younger
brother of Mīr Abul Qasim, bio-
graphical note, 968*n*
- Zalim Singh, Rana, Rengent of Kotah
(1771-1824 A. D.), 674-5, 703,
1438, 1461, 1484, 1489
- Zamaniah, town and *parḡana* in
Ghaziḡar District, United Provinces,
164, 340
- Zamīndārī and ta'alluqdārī*, Muḥam-
mad Riḡa Khān's memorandum on,
1008
- Zebu'n-Nisā Begam, better known
as Begam Samrū, widow of Walter
Reinhardt, note, 445*n*; her troops,
445; joins Sindhia, 617
- Zila' (A. a division of a province
a district), 371, 412
- Zimpen (Governor) of Wandipore, 139
- Zorāwar Khān, 981
- Zubdatu't-tujjār* (A. cream of the
merchants; best of the traders,
a form of address), 1034
- Zulfaqār 'Alī, Mīr, 255
- Zulfaqār'u'd-Daulah, see Najaf Khān
Nawab
- Zul-hijja* (A. 12th month of the
lunar year), 145, 760
- Zu'l-qa'da* (A. 11th month of the lunar
year), 202, 700

